

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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AMAZON GROUP SIGNS 'SANTIAGO DE CALI' DECLARATION

PA101640 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1640 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Cali, Colombia, 9 Dec (DPA) -- The foreign ministers of the member countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty agreed here that the financial aspects of cooperation must be considered within the context of the economic crisis that affects the region's countries, and reiterated their decision to promote the tasks agreed upon in the documents signed within the framework of the treaty.

On concluding the second meeting of the Amazon Pact member countries' foreign ministers yesterday, the participants signed the "declaration of Santiago de Cali," wherein they pledge to expedite contacts among national institutions and organizations dealing with Amazon affairs to promote seminars permitting exchanges of information and experience.

The declaration was signed by Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo, Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro of Brazil, Luis Valencia Rodríguez of Ecuador, Esmond Jackson of Guyana, Liam Ali Errol Alibux of Suriname, Jose Ortiz Mercado of Bolivia, Vice Admiral Jorge Dubois Gervasi of Peru, and Ambassador Francisco Paparoni Minuta for Venezuela.

Some of the decisions adopted in this meeting and contained in the declaration are as follows:

"To arrange technical meetings related to each of the priority areas in the treaty prior to the next meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council through close contacts with the provisional secretariat, a post currently held by the Bolivian Foreign Ministry;

"To arrange a meeting in 1984 of the Amazon regional development organizations, to exchange information and knowledge, to establish contacts at the institutional and personal level among these organizations, and to plan future joint or complementary actions.

"To agree to the proposal that a seminar on transportation and communications be held in 1984, that another be held on projects and construction and conservation of highways in the Amazon area, and that one be held on naval construction as applied to water transportation, with the purpose of exchanging information and experiences in these two basic areas, which are fundamental to the development of a transportation and communications system that meets the needs of the Amazon region.

"To suggest that the bilateral agreements on the control of animal diseases that exist in some Amazon countries be extended to other countries, in order to regionalize and intensify the fight against these diseases.

"To promote studies and the exchange of information on diseases that are transmitted in the Amazon region, especially yellow fever and dengue, with particular focus on the risk that such diseases may spread to urban areas; to hold a seminar for discussion of all the implications of the issue; and to establish specific joint action plans to promote the financial, technical, and personal support of the Pan-American Health Organizations and the WHO.

"To arrange a technical seminar for the first half of 1984 to assess the possibility of creating a network to compile and disseminate hydrometeorological data, to take advantage of existing structures and experience in the member countries."

In the 2-day talks, Colombia proposed that a mechanism to be called the "permanent operational unity of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty" be created as an agile and stable instrument to coordinate, promote, and bolster the efforts of each and every one of the parties to the agreement.

This operational unity, according to the Colombian proposal, which was approved by the attending delegates, might function through a system of financial pre-investment coordination; a planning and research center to promote regional development plans and programs for development, science, and technology; and a documentation and information center to coordinate, update, and control the activities of compiling, systematizing, and disseminating information on the Amazon region.

ALFONSIN GREETES DELEGATIONS AT FOREIGN MINISTRY

PY102157 [Editorial Report] Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish at 1620 on 10 December carries live coverage from the Golden Hall of the Argentine Foreign Ministry of the ceremony in which President Raul Alfonsin and Foreign Minister Dante Caputo greet the foreign delegations that attended the presidential inauguration.

The deputy director of protocol, Julio Ferrari, announces the delegations. The first delegation to greet Alfonsin and Caputo are led by the heads of state as follows: Costa Rica, Luis Alberto Monge; Peru, Fernando Belaunde Terry; Ecuador, Oswaldo Hurtado; Guatemala, Oscar Mejia Victores; Colombia, Belisario Betancur; Nicaragua, Daniel Ortega; Bolivia, Hernan Siles Zuazo; and Spain, Felipe Gonzalez.

Alfonsin and Caputo then met the delegations headed by the Prime Ministers of Portugal Mario Soares, of France Pierre Mauroy; and of Italy Bettino Craxi. Following the prime ministers, the Cuban delegation headed by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers; the Yugoslav delegation headed by Fadilj Hodza, member of the presidency; the Polish delegation headed by Tadeusz Mlynezak, deputy chairman of the Council of State; the Romanian delegation headed by Gheorghe Radulescu, vice president of the Council of State; the U.S. delegation headed by Vice President George Bush, the Soviet delegation headed by Antanas Barkauskas, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium; the Bulgarian delegation headed by Petur Tanchev, first deputy chairman of the Council of State; the Hungarian delegation headed by Imre Katona, secretary of the presidential council.

The remaining delegations who greeted Alfonsin and Caputo were represented by their respective ambassadors accredited in Argentina.

The greetings from foreign delegations ended at 1755 after which President Raul Alfonsin and Foreign Minister Dante Caputo left the Golden Hall for a reception in the same building.

Alfonsin Talks With Leaders

PY122053 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 12 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- During his second day as President of Argentina, Raul Alfonsin held a long round of talks with the various heads of state who attended his inauguration.

Early in the morning, Alfonsin received Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry. Following the almost one-hour meeting, Belaunde said the conversation had centered on economic subjects. "It is obvious that we have common difficulties," the foreign official told the press, adding that he had informed Alfonsin of his country's willingness to "set a top-limit on (Peruvian) foreign debt interest payments."

Shortly afterwards, the President met with Oswaldo Hurtado, his Ecuadorean colleague, who told the press following the meeting that "we discussed mainly the forthcoming economic conference to take place in Quito." The goal of that conference, he said, is for Latin American countries to "agree on guidelines to deal with their recessive economies."

Alfonsin then met briefly with Guatemalan President Oscar Mejia Victores, who was followed by Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi.

Crazi said after the meeting that "(British Prime Minister Margaret) Thatcher told me she would send Doctor Alfonsín a message, and also told me this was a friendly gesture," but "I was not the bearer of that message." Regarding the Malvinas issue, he said he had discussed the conflict with Alfonsín, and stated his belief that "the best way to solve it is dialogue." When queried on whether Italy might become a mediator for Argentina and Britain, Crazi replied that "both are mature nations, they need no mediation." On a separate subject, Crazi said he had submitted to Alfonsín "a list with the names of Italian citizens, that is, bearing both Italian and Argentine passports, who have been convicted by military courts for political offences, and asked him to work for their release."

The President then met briefly with Soviet envoy Barkauskas and with the wife of Greek Prime Minister Papandreou. Later, Alfonsín received Colombian President Belisario Betancur, and immediately afterwards, Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez.

Following the meeting, Gonzalez said that "within 10, 20, or 30 years, December 10 will be remembered as a historic event." He added that Alfonsín, Betancur and he had held a joint meeting at which they discussed "the need for the total democratization of Latin America."

"We spoke about the deep significance of the role of Latin American countries in the world," he said, and "the positive factors such as growth and adaptation to industrial processes. Gonzalez said his meeting with Alfonsín "was only a starting point," adding that "I will use my full efforts to build closer links between Spain and the (Latin American) continent, and to cooperate to the extent of our possibilities so that there will be common political features."

Alfonsín shared lunch with a great number of the visiting dignitaries, and later hosted them at the Teatro Colon, where the Buenos Aires Philharmonic performed works by Ludwig Von Beethoven and Argentine composers Alberto Ginastera and Astor Piazzola, among others.

The President later attended a dinner party hosted at the Spanish Embassy by Gonzalez, who only invited the representatives of Latin American countries under democratic rule. Thus Salvadoran, Guatemalan, Chilean, Uruguayan and Brazilian dignitaries were excluded, with Cuba's representatives -- present at the party -- being the only exception.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo also had a busy day, meeting with a large number of foreign representatives, with whom he discussed human rights, the Malvinas conflict, and other issues of bilateral and international significance.

Falklands Mediation Offer

LD122248 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Today Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares offered to act as mediator between Great Britain and Argentina. It will be recalled that these two countries have broken off relations since the Malvinas war. From Buenos Aires here is a report by our special correspondent, Antonio Ribeiro:

Life is returning to normal in Argentina, with the foreign delegations holding their last political meetings before leaving Buenos Aires. This morning, Mario Soares was received by President Raul Alfonsin, with whom he discussed bilateral relations and to whom he announced Portugal's willingness to convey to Great Britain, our centuries-old ally, the importance of the changes which have taken place in Argentina -- having in mind a political settlement of the Malvinas conflict. The Portuguese prime minister also stressed to President Raul Alfonsin Portugal's support for Argentina's return to democracy. Mario Soares will fly back to Lisbon tonight via Rio de Janeiro.

Alfonsin, Thatcher Messages

PY102257 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1715 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Dec (TELAM) -- President Raul Alfonsin today answered a message that had been sent to him by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, reminding her of an old English proverb which says that where there's a will, there's a way. This was reported by presidential spokesman Ignacio Lopez in the newsmen's room of Government House.

Margaret Thatcher sent the following message to the Argentine constitutional president:

"On the occasion of your inauguration, I wanted to let you know that, although we have many differences, we can all take pleasure in the restoration of democracy in Argentina, believing that it will bring freedom and justice to all your people. Today gives new hope to your country."

President Alfonsin sent the following reply to the prime minister:

"Thank you for your expressions regarding the restoration of democratic institutions in Argentina."

"I agree with you that differences exist between Argentina and the United Kingdom. In this regard, it would be useful to recall an old English proverb: Where there's a will, there's a way."

Alfonsin Meets USSR's Barkauskas

PY122214 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1530 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Dec (TELAM) -- Today Antanas Barkauskas, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, told Argentine President Raul Alfonsin during a meeting in the Olivos residence that nuclear energy should be used for peaceful purposes. The high-ranking Soviet official talked to journalists upon leaving the Olivos residence at 1155.

Alfonsin Meets Cuba's Rodriguez

PY122350 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2211 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Dec (DYN) -- This afternoon Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez conveyed to President Raul Alfonsin Fidel Castro's "happiness over the victory of democracy in Argentina" which, he stated, will consolidate bilateral relations.

After meeting with Alfonsin, the Cuban official told journalists that in 1984, trade exchange between Cuba and Argentina will substantially increase since Cuba will acquire industrial, agricultural, and livestock products worth \$200 million per year.

[Passage indistinct] "will support the Contadora Group's ideas, although we do not interpret some of the problems the same way."

When asked whether a meeting between Alfonsín and Fidel Castro could take place, he said that "that possibility does exist," although nothing in this regard has been arranged.

Rodriguez on U.S. Intervention

PY091313 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1011 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 9 Dec (NA) -- Upon arriving in this country last night, Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez was asked about the probability of U.S. military intervention in Nicaragua. He said that, looking at the preparations, "all visible signs point not only to its possibility, but to its imminence. Rodriguez predicted that "if the good sense of the United States prevails over Mr Reagan's primitive ideological bias, we believe there will be no invasion." He admitted the presence of Cubans in Nicaragua, "a presence which gives us satisfaction," with 2,000 teachers and "hundreds of construction workers who are building roads and a sugar mill there."

Rodriguez on Relations

PA091700 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Speaking at an unscheduled news conference organized by a large group of journalists, Cuban Vice President Rodriguez pointed out that Cuban-Argentine relations entered a positive phase following the Malvinas event, and that it is expected that trade between the two countries will increase to \$200 million in 1984, an increase of \$120 million over the current trade figure.

The Cuban vice president rejected reports of Cuban meddling in Nicaraguan domestic affairs. He said that the people of the world see things clearly following the Grenada events. Rodriguez recalled that President Ronald Reagan said there were thousands of Cubans fighting in Grenada, when the fact was that there were slightly more than 700 collaborators, most of them civilian construction workers.

In Nicaragua, he added, there are 2,000 Cuban teachers and a few hundred doctors, road construction workers, and sugarmill construction people. Rodriguez charged that there is every sign of a possible U.S. invasion in Nicaragua and that the invasion is imminent.

Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca also forms part of the Cuban delegation which will be present at the government inauguration ceremony. Malmierca will arrive in Buenos Aires today from Europe.

Rodriguez' Greetings to Alfonsín

PA112225 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, greeted Argentine President Raul Alfonsín in Buenos Aires minutes after he was sworn in. In a ceremony held at the Argentine Foreign Ministry, where the new president received all foreign delegations that traveled to Argentina to participate in the inauguration, Rodriguez introduced the other members of the Cuban delegation to Alfonsín.

Media sources in Buenos Aires gave prominence to the visit of the vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers. Rodriguez said that the relations between the two countries have now entered a very positive stage. Our peoples were never separated, Rodriguez remarked, adding that they have economic tasks to carry out.

Ortega After Meeting Alfonsin

PY122106 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1450 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Dec (NA) -- Today Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, voiced his conviction that "we will have the support of the Argentine people and government" in case of aggression against his country. He affirmed that the electoral process to democratize Nicaragua will begin in January and that elections will be held a year later to replace the current Government Junta. Ortega made these statements in the press room at Government House a few minutes after he met with President Raul Alfonsin to analyze the Central American situation.

He said that during a meeting with Alfonsin he congratulated him "in Nicaragua's name for his victory, which is the victory of democracy for Argentina and which also represents a victory for Latin America and a victory for peace in the region."

Regarding the reasons for the Sandinist government's announcements of an imminent U.S. invasion of its territory, Ortega stated that "that is not something they say, it is something the U.S. leaders say." He pointed out that "there is a deployment of U.S. military forces in Central America which have practically fenced off Nicaragua. Therefore, the situation continues to be very serious and represents a threat to peace in the region." He explained that the Nicaraguan Government "is making an effort to achieve peace and that he hopes that the effort will be stronger than the desire for war."

Regarding U.S. Vice President George Bush's statements that the Sandinist government does not tell the truth when it refers to U.S. armed intervention, Ortega stated that U.S. policy in Central America has never sought to strengthen democracy. "Unless U.S. policy considers the Somoza dictatorship a democratic dictatorship," he added.

Ortega stated that his country's democratic chances "have increased with the success of the Sandinist revolution," adding that the "U.S. decision to invade Nicaragua reasserts a policy of force that is based on dictatorships." Ortega admitted that he discussed the Central American situation and the chances of a U.S. invasion of Nicaragua with Alfonsin. He said that "we depicted the situation in Central America; we emphasized the efforts made to seek peace, and the real threats of intervention and aggression against Nicaragua."

When asked whether President Alfonsin had promised to support his country, Ortega answered that "the Argentine democratic victory itself is already a sign of solidarity with the Nicaraguan peoples' struggle." He pointed out that "we are certain that we will have the full support for peace and democracy which is demanded not only by the Nicaraguan people, but by the entire Central American people."

Regarding the democratization process in Nicaragua, he reasserted that the pre-electoral phase will begin next January, and that elections to replace the current government junta will be held a year later, in January 1985.

Ortega Meets Mejia Victores

PA130350 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0050 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 12 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- General Oscar Mejia Victores, the Guatemalan head of state, met in Argentina with Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, official sources reported here today.

Interior Minister Adolfo Lopez, who is also acting foreign minister, said the meeting served to "review" the Central American problems. The official added that the efforts of the Contadora Group (Mexico, Venezuela, Panama, and Colombia) were discussed, and that both heads of state "reaffirmed their desire for an open, permanent, and candid dialogue in the area." Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade and Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto also participated in the meeting.

This is the first meeting between the two countries at this level since 1979, when the Sandinists assumed power in Nicaragua.

Minister Sandoval also reported that Mejia met in the Argentine capital with U.S. Vice President George Bush. Bush expressed to Mejia Victores his "satisfaction" at the progress of the political process for a return to democracy in Guatemala.

Mejia also met with Argentine President Raul Alfonsin and Colombian President Belisario Betancur during his stay in Buenos Aires.

Ortega Interview

PA121945 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1505 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Interview granted by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, in Buenos Aires; broadcast by Buenos Aires Radio Continental's "Magdalena and the News" program "about 2 hours ago"; no date given; questioners not identified -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] President Raul Alfonsin has stated that Argentina will do everything possible to guarantee the principle of nonintervention, independence, and democracy in Nicaragua. We have Dr [as heard] Daniel Ortega on the line. As is known, he heads the Nicaraguan Government Junta. Good morning, Dr Ortega, how are you?

[Ortega] Fine, good morning.

[Question] Yesterday, French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy said in a news conference that he and Vice President Bush had discussed the topic of Central America. You met in the hotel with Bettino Craxi and Pierre Mauroy. There are also rumors that you met with Vice President Bush.

[Ortega] We must clarify that we have not had the opportunity to speak with the U.S. vice president, even though we want to hold a dialogue. Nicaragua holds the door open to a dialogue with the United States. As is known, there is a general concern among the Latin American and European leaders regarding the critical Central American situation, and that is why there are continual efforts for peace in Central America.

[Question] How could the peace efforts be described at this time?

[Ortega] The Contadora Group has been a very important element. It clearly synthesizes, embodies that effort for peace. We must point out that within the framework of Contadora, Nicaragua has presented several initiatives in favor of peace. For example, within the framework of Contadora Nicaragua recently expressed its willingness to have all foreign military advisers immediately leave the Central American region, to halt the purchase of weapons by all the Central American states, to dismantle the foreign military bases in the Central American region, and to prohibit military maneuvers or exercises with foreign forces in the Central American region. In this way, we are providing a solution to all the points that are described as security issues by some Central American states and the United States, and that have increased tensions in the Central American region.

[Question] When you speak of dismantling foreign bases in Central America and the Caribbean region, what would be the Soviet Union's response to such a proposal?

[Ortega] The discussion is not about the Caribbean region. It is essentially on Central America.

[Question] But we understand there are many Cuban teachers in Nicaragua?

[Ortega] Yes, but the Cuban teachers are not Cuban militarymen. We have received many Cuban teachers, Venezuelan teachers, and teachers from various Latin American countries. Spanish teachers have also arrived [words indistinct]. We also have a large number of technical, medical and professional collaborators from various Latin American countries, the United States, Canada, Europe, and other countries. The issue of cooperation in these social and technical fields is not under discussion in the Central American region.

[Question] Excuse me if I insist on this. When you say that Central America is not included in the Caribbean area, where do you geographically and politically differentiate between them? Where do you make this division?

[Ortega] I do not make any distinction between Central America and the Caribbean, and much less regarding Latin America. I think Latin America is a single whole. We have common problems, objectives, and history. In this case, I would go beyond this, because Central America and the Caribbean [words indistinct] Latin America. However, there is a very specific problem affecting the Central American region. This has been pointed out by the United States. This is accepted by the world and international public opinion. There is a very specific topic which is currently being debated [words indistinct] and that refers to the Central American region, specifically the five Central American countries.

[Question] How would you evaluate the invasion of Grenada?

[Ortega] It was an act of force by the United States. It was an arrogant act that confirms the U.S. policy decision to show no respect for international law. It also showed [words indistinct] the rejection of the Latin American governments and peoples of this policy.

[Question] Do you think that this is part of a geopolitical rather than merely political strategy?

[Ortega] Yes, I think so. In an effort to obtain world military and economic hegemony, the United States is acting in Latin America. We cannot separate this U.S. intervention in Grenada from the U.S. attitude toward the Malvinas and Central America, where it is carrying out overt terrorist actions against the Nicaraguan people. We cannot separate it from the U.S. policy at the world level, which even subscribes to the concept of limited nuclear war.

[Question] When you say limited nuclear war, are you referring to nuclear bases that might be located, for example, on Central American territory?

[Ortega] No, we are particularly referring to the U.S. political attitude at the world level, which has led to a retrogression in the negotiations on SALT II, in Geneva, etc. and which seriously threatens humanity's security.

[Question] In addition to those of the United States, what other foreign forces are in Honduras?

[Ortega] In addition to the U.S. forces, we know that there are Israeli advisers in Honduras.

[Question] Some newspapers and news agencies have reported that there are also Argentine advisers.

[Ortega] We know that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, which is (?in charge) of the terrorist operations against Nicaragua from Honduras -- independent of the presence of the U.S. Army, which also has a very clear objective as a regular military force against Nicaragua -- has called up many of its Latin American agents, regardless of their nationalities, profession, position, or work.

[Question] There has been considerable talk of a probable U.S. invasion of Nicaragua, and this was the topic of comments by leaders of various foreign delegations here in Argentina. How close is that invasion?

[Ortega] The North Americans have talked about an invasion. The U.S. president, some 4 or 5 days ago, did not rule out an act of intervention in Nicaragua. He has said that whenever the necessary conditions exist in Nicaragua, they are ready and willing to intervene. If to this expressed desire of the U.S. leaders to intervene in and invade Nicaragua -- an action that also threatens El Salvador -- we add the U.S. military presence in Central America, reflected in the troops on Honduran territory, warships surrounding Nicaraguan territory, daily flights by U.S. spy planes, and pressures on other Central American states to become involved in actions against Nicaragua, then the danger of a direct U.S. intervention has certainly not been removed from the Central American region.

[Question] If such an invasion were to take place, how would you compare this invasion of your country, Nicaragua, with the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan?

[Ortega] Well, I can tell you that Nicaragua has been invaded by the United States on previous occasions. Nicaragua was invaded at the beginning of this century. A liberal government was overthrown by the United States in 1909. There was also a U.S. invasion in the last century, in 1856.

A liberal government was overthrown by the United States in 1909, when the Soviet Union did not exist, and the Cuban revolution had yet to triumph, factors that many point to as causes of the Central American conflicts. In 1912, U.S. troops landed in our country. They occupied it until 1926, when they withdrew for a few months and then returned to occupy the country because of a democratic and constitutionalist struggle being waged by members of the Liberal Party and by General Sandino. This new intervention led to the first great resistance by the Nicaraguan people. Therefore, I can speak with conviction about the situation in our country which has been invaded and attacked by U.S. policy. As for the situation in Afghanistan, we have clearly stressed at the United Nations that there is a need to find a solution there, since the Afghan situation has been increasing world tensions and threatening the agreements of a more strategic and global nature between the United States and the Soviet Union on world peace, disarmament, and so forth.

[Question] In regard to the global strategy pursued by the two powers, do you think a possible U.S. invasion of Nicaragua could unleash a Soviet counterreply?

[Ortega] I don't think so. The Soviet Union has clearly expressed its rejection of U.S. policy in Central America, but this does not necessarily commit the Soviet Union to a response to possible U.S. intervention there, specifically in Nicaragua. We are not members of NATO or of the Warsaw Pact. We are not a part of the socialist community. We are a part of Latin America, Central America, and the Nonaligned Movement. Therefore, the solidarity against and response to a U.S. attack must initially come from the Nicaraguans, the Central Americans the Latin Americans, and the members of the Nonaligned Movement. Still, under those circumstances, we are certain that we would receive massive international support, regardless of ideologies.

[Question] As for support, do you think that the support that Nicaragua currently has among some European powers is stopping the United States?

[Ortega] I think that the primary factor preventing such a U.S. attack is the degree of organization and morale of the Nicaraguan people. The threat of invasion has recently forced our people to increase their efforts to prepare for defense, so that they may resist, fight, and defeat any possible U.S. intervention. I think that this is the main thing that is holding the United States back. In addition, I cannot underestimate another important element that is restraining the United States, which is the international support and solidarity we receive from and the rejection of that U.S. policy by Latin American and European governments -- particularly those governments that have good relations with the United States, to which the United States listen, and that have rejected that policy of force.

[Question] What support or promise did President Alfonsin offer or make?

[Ortega] We have come to Buenos Aires to congratulate the Argentine people and President Alfonsin on this great triumph of democracy in Argentina. We have expressed our greetings, and we will have the opportunity to speak more at length with President Alfonsin today.

[Question] What are the Contadora Group's real prospects?

[Ortega] The Contadora Group has achieved substantial advances, including the fact that all of the Central American countries signed a 21-point document addressing the essential political, military, and economic aspects of the Central American region. We are now in the stage of (implementing) the 21 points established in that document of objectives. As I said earlier, Nicaragua has presented new initiatives. It has presented proposals for peace and friendship treaties among the Central American states and between Nicaragua and the United States. We proposed a document in which Nicaragua and the United States would pledge to undertake efforts to promote a political solution to the Salvadoran problem. It also calls on other states to contribute their efforts. As I said earlier, Nicaragua has also offered proposals on military aspects, as well as proposals in the area of economics, which is a cause of political and social crises in the Central American region.

[Question] Various agreements have been achieved through the Contadora countries. How do you view the situation as it involves other inter-American organizations, such as the OAS, or international organizations, such as the United Nations?

[Ortega] In the case of the OAS, our problem is that as long as the United States is a part of the OAS, it distorts that organization's role. The OAS must be a Latin American organization, which can promote dialogue or Latin American communication with the countries of the north, where the United States is a very clear leader and where the economic situation is completely different. We have a strange mixture in the OAS. Even our OAS headquarters is in the United States, and this does not help. We need a Latin American OAS, with headquarters in Latin America.

[Question] Dr Daniel Ortega, as head of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, we thank you very much for having spoken at length with us. Thank you very much, you have been very kind.

[Ortega] Thank you for permitting me to speak with the Argentine people. And thank you for calling me doctor, but I have no such title.

Gonzalez Meets Rodriguez

LD120540 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Yesterday Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez had a meeting with Cuban vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez in Buenos Aires, where they are both attending Raul Alfonsin's inauguration. The subjects of their discussion were the situation in Central America and the Caribbean and the development toward democracy in South America. Felipe Gonzalez told journalists: We all have to make an effort to see that development takes place peacefully, in freedom, and that it is based on tolerance and is capable of stopping any temptation to use violence. All these thoughts were noted in my conversation with Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Felipe Gonzales said. The exchange of views between the two men will continue today, the Spanish prime minister said, when they will be dealing with bilateral matters.

Craxi Meets Alfonsin

AU111930 Rome ANSA in English 1850 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] (ANSA) Buenos Aires, December 11 -- The newly-elected president of Argentina, Raul Alfonsin, had a lengthy talk here Sunday with Italian Premier Bettino Craxi at the presidential residence "Olivos".

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Crazi took the occasion to submit a list to Alfonsin of Italian citizens or those having dual Italian-Argentine citizenship who are currently incarcerated because of sentences handed down by military tribunals for political crimes. He urged the Argentine leader to intervene so as to free these prisoners in the interests of justice and humanity.

Alfonsin told Crazi that a bill will go before the parliament Monday to revise these sentences issued by the military courts and that a copy of the bill would also be given to the Italian premier to peruse.

Among those accompanying Crazi to the presidential residence was Foreign Undersecretary Susanna Agnelli and the Italian ambassador to Argentina, Sergio Kociancic.

The visit also served to outline possible steps that Italy and Europe can take to aid Argentina's new democracy and help consolidate it.

Israel Demands 'Reciprocity'

TA121229 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 Dec 83 p 4

[Report from Buenos Aires by Me'ir Tahanay]

[Excerpt] In talks with leaders of the new regime in Buenos Aires, Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche raised "the need for symmetry and reciprocity" in relations between Argentina and Israel. In his talks, Kimche mentioned Israel's support for Argentina during the Falklands war in contrast with the large number of instances when Argentina did not support Israel in international arenas.

Caputo Prioritizes Beagle

PY102322 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Dec (NA) -- Foreign Minister-designate Dante Caputo has stated that "the Radical Civic Union [UCR] government will assign high priority to solving the southern conflict and that it will seek a prompt agreement with Chile within the framework of the mediation."

Caputo disclosed the text of a letter which he had addressed to Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, the Vatican secretary of state. The letter was handcarried by General Ricardo Etcheverry Boneo, the head of the Argentine delegation to the mediation, who will stay in his post.

The future member of Raul Alfonsin's cabinet also met with Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari in San Martin Palace yesterday afternoon. At the end of this visit, Caputo made a brief statement to newsmen to announce that tomorrow evening he and President Alfonsin "will meet, separately, with the delegation of Bolivia, the United States, and France." Caputo said "the new president had decided to receive a Latin American delegation first, and thus he picked the delegation from Bolivia, our predecessor in completing its institutionalization process."

Caputo's letter to Casaroli states: "As I prepare to assume my post as minister of foreign relations and worship, I want to state the the UCR government will assign high priority to solving the southern conflict." The letter adds: "The UCR Government will seek a prompt agreement with Chile within the framework of the mediation, in keeping with the guidelines established in the UCR platform."

The letter adds that "the progress made in these sensitive negotiations has contributed to shedding more light on this complex situation, which requires an in-depth analysis to ensure a prompt agreement." Finally, the letter says: "I also want to tell you that we intend to dispatch a special envoy to convey to you our gratitude and to exchange ideas on the subject and that it is our intention to keep Ambassador Etcheverry Boneo in his post."

Caputo Meets Barkauskas

PY122130 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1830 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Dec (DYN) -- Today Antanas Barkauskas, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, said that his country's position on Central America coincides with the Argentine position. Accompanied by Ambassador Oleg Kvasov, Barkauskas, who heads the Soviet delegation for the presidential inauguration, met with Foreign Minister Dante Caputo for 45 minutes this morning.

Upon leaving the Foreign Ministry, Barkauskas said he held a "very interesting" meeting with Caputo on international issues and bilateral relations. Regarding bilateral relations, he said that "we are again convinced that we have great possibilities for cooperation in the economic, commercial, political, scientific, technical, cultural, sports, and other fields."

Regarding international matters, the Soviet representative said that "we agreed that the current international situation is very serious, very tense. During the meeting, we particularly discussed the situation in Central America and the Caribbean." He added that on this matter "we heard with satisfaction the foreign minister's explanation on the position Argentina is going to adopt in this regard. Our positions coincide, they are the same."

Asked about the Soviet position on Central America and what solutions the Soviets offer, Barkauskas said: "We are categorically against any intervention, any foreign intervention in the internal affairs of the Central American countries and the entire region." He added: "We believe that force cannot be used to solve conflicts. Possibilities for political dialogue should be sought. This is the Soviet Union's position."

Barkauskas confirmed that he brought a message from the Supreme Soviet Presidium addressed to President Raul Alfonsin and two messages to the presidents of the two chambers of the Argentine Congress.

Caputo, AD Leader Meet

PY092308 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1430 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Dec (NA) -- Foreign Minister-designate Dante Caputo announced to Chile's Democratic Alliance today that a human rights department will be created within San Martin Palace to investigate the cases of missing foreigners in Argentina. Caputo made this disclosure during a 10-minute meeting in his office with Ricardo Lagos, president of the Chilean opposition coalition.

The foreign minister-designate promised that Raul Alfonsin's government will do its best to clarify the cases of missing people, including several dozen Chileans.

Mrs Peron Addresses Argentines

PY091318 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1202 CMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Dec (TELAM) -- Here is the text of the speech that Maria Estela Martinez de Peron made at the Ezeiza International Airport upon her arrival in the country this morning:

On this immensely happy day, taking advantage of this first personal contact with the Argentine people, I have written these lines, which seek to express my innermost feelings by trying to overcome the limitations of words and the turmoil in my mind. Thus, I will try to express the deep feelings which the return to my country awakens.

Neither the days nor hours of our short lives are all the same. Loneliness has made time pass more slowly for me and has lengthened my absence. Therefore, I am most deeply moved by my return and by being able to meet with my fellow countrymen. I have no complaints, nor do I wish to offend anyone on this happy day. Above and beyond the miseries which sought to overwhelm me is the happiness of having returned and the possibility of fully sharing the desires, dreams, concerns, and needs of the Argentine people at this crucial time for the nation.

I believe -- and I emphasize -- that we must feel grateful for this positive situation, for the recovery of the institutions and of the respect for the basic rights of any civilized society. Once again the people's will to follow the path of democracy has prevailed. This is the meaning of my presence here in time to rejoice together on the advent of a new stage, of a state of law guaranteeing a happy future for the country and for the Argentine people.

I am aware of the severe problems that we are facing on both the international and the national levels. I know all about the harmful consequences of authoritarian rule, which has chained loyalties, destroyed assets, encouraged speculation, discouraged the youth, hurled millions of families into misery, endangered national sovereignty, attacked moral principles that have always been respected, despised workers and disregarded their rights, replaced justice with an uncontrolled and unbridled arbitrary behavior, allowed terror to reign, and paid no heed to the disappearance of thousands of citizens. In sum, it went against civilized social order and the basic respect owed to people and to God.

In the light of this lamentable reality, I share everyone's enormous concern over the search for the best solutions to overcome so many evils. But because of the responsibility that I have to the Peronist people, my greatest concern is to help -- as a guarantee for the country's future -- to strengthen the Peronist Party on the basis of these ever-present principles that were left to us by General Peron, such as social justice, economic independence, and political sovereignty; and to rechannel the actions of the National Justicialist Movement toward achieving a harmonious relationship with the other civic groups and to carry out joint efforts so as to attain well-being for all.

Now that we Argentines are vigorously committed to repel any attack against institutional stability and any deviation capable of affecting the representative, republican, and federal system of the nation, let us be proudly capable of putting the holy interests of the country above everything else and to unhesitatingly make all the sacrifices necessary to respect and to make them respected.

I wish to thank His Excellency President Raul Alfonsin for his invitation to this most significant ceremony at which constitutional rule will be restored under his leadership, as has been decided by the majority of the Electoral College of the nation. I would also like to thank him for his acknowledgement of the fact that I am a former president, which is part of the patriotic objective of carrying out effective cooperation among the most representative civic forces of the nation.

I would like to include a great embrace the relatives of all those who lost loved ones in the war for the Malvinas, where the latter proved their courage, endurance, and patriotism.

I would not like to conclude this speech without conveying my greetings to the comrades of our cause, to the women's Peronist branch, very especially to the youth, the future of the fatherland, and to the workers, urging them all to remain the backbone of the movement and to always remember the lessons and sacrifices of General Peron.

To all the Argentine people, regardless of political leanings and social status, a warm embrace from one who seeks to be the bearer of faith, fraternal coexistence, solidarity, and love.

New Military Chiefs

PY122031 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 12 Dec 83 p 7

[Text] (NA) -- Brigadier General Julio Alfredo Fernandez Torres will be appointed head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff by President Raul Alfonsin, military sources said yesterday, adding that Brigadier General Jorge Hogo Arguindeguy might be appointed Army Chief of Staff.

Fernandez Torres, 54, is an infantry officer currently in charge of the Army 1st Corps, has had almost no political activity during his career, and is highly regarded as a "professional."

Arguindeguy is a cavalry officer currently heading the logistics department of the Army Chief of Staff.

No reports have yet been floated regarding similar appointments in the Navy and Air Force, but they are expected within this week.

If the two Army appointments are confirmed, the promotions would imply the automatic retirement from active duty of 21 generals, in addition to six who already left the ranks last week.

Fernandez Torres, who commanded the 4th Infantry Brigade during last year's Anglo-Argentine war over the Malvinas, refused to comply with an order by then president and Commander-in-Chief Leopoldo Galtieri to the effect that he should make his airborne troops jump over Goose Green, alleging that such an operation would result in an unjustified number of casualties.

New Police Chief on Policy

PY122037 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 12 Dec 83

[Text] After being sworn in by Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli yesterday morning, New Federal Police Chief Antonio Di Vietri said that the Superintendency of Federal Security, a federal police department of political nature, will be reorganized and modified. Di Vietri also restated that the police will be marked by their respect for the law.

"The superintendency will not have the same orientation it used to," Di Vietri said following the ceremony in the Patio de las Palmeras of police headquarters. However, he did not elaborate further on the changes to be implemented "because the constitutional government has just taken office." The ceremony was attended by outgoing Federal Police Chief General Juan Bautista Sasiain.

"In the future, the police will abide by the law, the penal code, and its rules and regulations," he told the press. Di Vietri said that during the last military government he performed "purely operative tasks, but not those some people may be thinking of," he added.

DIPLOMATS SAY U.S. ARMS NOT IMMEDIATELY NEEDED

PY102226 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2215 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Washington, 9 Dec (NA) -- The lifting of the arms embargo against Argentina, which is to become effective on the date democracy is restored there, is meant to symbolize the end of a conflictive period of relations between the two countries, diplomatic observers in this capital city have noted.

Argentine diplomatic sources have said that "certification" is a minor question. According to these sources, the Argentine Army has its own sources of arms, as well as other foreign suppliers, and the Navy and Air Force needs mainly spare parts.

Argentine sources in Washington have said that spare parts for helicopters would probably be ordered, but "no purchases will be made until the new government decides on the allocation of funds." They added that requirements are being studied.

Former Official Views Policy

PY112111 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 11 Dec 83 p 14

[By Douglas Tweedale]

[Text] The United States decision to lift its arms embargo against Argentina "is a perfect example of the absolute stupidity of the Reagan administration's policy in Latin America" according to former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights Patricia Derian.

Derian, a special guest at President Raul Alfonsin's inauguration yesterday, said that "anyone can see that what this new government needs is economic assistance, not new arms." "The foreign debt problem has been front page news in newspapers around the world, so there is no excuse for not knowing about it," she said, adding that the debt crisis would be the most serious challenge facing Alfonsin's fledgling democratic government.

"This is a real call to action to the democracies of the world to give (the new government) the wherewithall to stand a fighting chance," Derian said. "To show the U.S. really cares about democracy. (U.S. Vice President) George Bush should have come down here with a billion dollar loan package."

Derian was the main implementor of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter's human rights policy and strongly supported the 1978 congressional ban on U.S. arms sales to the Argentine military government imposed because of massive human rights violation here.

"These people are just coming out of a dirty war -- the last thing they need is for the military to be re-armed," she said.

Derian arrived in Buenos Aires on Thursday afternoon and drove directly from Ezeiza Airport to Plaza de Mayo to join the Mothers of Plaza de Mayo's final demonstration against the outgoing regime to demand information about their missing relatives.

In an interview conducted as she marched alongside the mothers, Derian harshly criticized the Reagan administration's Latin American policy for favouring the region's military dictatorships.

"If you look at the list of friends administration officials have made as they travel around the continents, I don't think there is any way to describe them but as neo-fascist," she said.

"I have found that people in Argentina and Latin America want to think well of the U.S., but the Reagan administration makes it impossible. They just don't understand democracy," she added.

Derian also criticized the timing of the U.S. State Department announcement on Thursday that it was lifting the five-year-old ban on weapons sales to Argentina. "It was a grave error not to wait until the military had left; it gives the wrong kind of signal."

After attending Alfonsin's inauguration ceremonies yesterday, the former human rights official expressed cautious optimism about the new government's chances. "If it all depended on the Argentine people and the Alfonsin administration's commitment to democracy, there wouldn't be anything to worry about.

"But it's a question of cold cash. The economic crisis is going to be a ghastly problem" which only the help of democratic governments such as the United States can solve, Derian said.

Another serious problem facing the Alfonsin government, she said, will be "giving a full account of the disappeared." Asked whether she would recommend the creation of congressional investigating commissions to look into the fate of the disappeared, Derian said "I don't see any way of bringing cases (of human rights crimes) before the courts without an adequate investigation." (Alfonsin has said he does not support the idea of congressional commissions, but that the Radical Party deputies will be free to vote as they choose if the issue comes up in Congress).

"But I don't think there's any way a democratic government can let the mothers (of Plaza de Mayo) down," Derian concluded.

L.A. POLITICIANS SIGN CHARTER IN BUENOS AIRES

PY112116 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 11 Dec 83 p 17

[Text] (NA) -- Latin American legislators and politicians in Buenos Aires for the presidential inauguration of Raul Alfonsin yesterday, agreed later in the day to sign a so-called "Democratic Charter of Buenos Aires" with a joint pledge to uphold democracy in the hemisphere, diplomatic sources revealed.

PARAGUAYAN MINISTER OPTIMISTIC ON RELATIONS

PY122007 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1430 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Posadas, 12 Dec (TELAM) -- Paraguayan Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro has voiced his optimism by stating that the Argentines and Paraguayans are going to overcome absurd obstacles now that we have the Posadas-Encarnacion bridge underway.

The minister travelled to this city yesterday to attend the inauguration ceremony of the new constitutional government headed by Ricardo Barrios Arrechea, to which he had been especially invited.

Montanaro stated that I have come here on General Stroessner's orders since we believe that through the talks begun with Governor Barrios Arrechea, we are going to establish stronger ties through a frank policy of rapprochement on our borders. He added that this subject had already been discussed by the Paraguayan foreign minister with President Alfonsin, Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, and Economy Minister Bernardo Grispun.

According to Minister Montanaro, President Alfredo Stroessner views with great pleasure the assumption of power by Raul Alfonsin, whose speech -- which we heard via a television broadcast in Asuncion -- reveals a deep Panamerican and integrationist spirit.

When asked by journalists about Paraguay's domestic policy, Minister Montanaro said that democracy prevails in his country, that opposition members are not persecuted, that there are few Paraguayans in exile that many have exiled themselves, and that at present there is only one political prisoner (in Paraguay) -- Escolastico Ovando.

Offers Guarantees for Exiles

PY122004 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 12 Dec 83 p 11

[By special correspondent Edwin Brites]

[Excerpt] Posadas -- Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro met here today with the leaders of the Colorado Popular Movement [MOPOCO] to whom he offered guarantees to return to the country and exercise their political rights. The meeting was held at the hotel where Minister Montanaro was staying.

Montanaro came to Posadas heading an official Paraguayan delegation to attend the inauguration of Ricardo Barrios Arrechea, new governor of Misiones Province.

The MOPOCO leaders who were received by the interior minister were Faustino Centurion, Eduardo San Martin, and Edgar Cataldi, who stated that the meeting had been arranged by Governor Barrios Arrechea. The meeting was also attended by Miguel Bestard, Itapua government delegate Sergio Dacak, Deputy Juan A. Moreno Rufinelli, and the Paraguayan consul in Posadas.

The closed door meeting was held in a suite of the Continental Hotel. According to the MOPOCO members, Montanaro told them they could return to the country individually so long as they informed the Interior Ministry or the government delegate of Itapua Department of the date and place through which they wished to return to the country and the names of the members of their family that would accompany them. They also disclosed that President Stroessner would view the MOPOCO members' return to the country with pleasure.

Faustino Centurion told Minister Montanaro that it was insulting for a Paraguayan citizen who had not committed any crime to have to ask permission to return to his fatherland. Montanaro answered that it was a mere formality.

In principle, the MOPOCO decided to arrange the return of its president, Miguel Angel Casabianca, to be followed by Edgar Cataldi, political secretary of the movement.

The news of the MOPOCO meeting with Montanaro suprised the remaining members of the National Accord branch in Posadas as well as the executive board of the National Republican Association in exile and of the resistance [junta de gobierno de la ANR en el exilio y la resistencia], who stated that they had no news of the meeting. The MOPOCO members said that they will consider Montanaro's offer, which had already been given to them by the new Misiones governor after his meeting with President Stroessner. The meeting at that time had caused disgust among some sectors of the Paraguayan community in Posadas. The Authentic Radical Party [PLRA], for example, did not attend the governor's inauguration despite the fact that its members were officially invited. Members of the PLRA, however, participated in the festivities marking the event.

SURVEY SHOWS GOVERNMENT LOSING SUPPORT

PY092336 Santiago HOY in Spanish 7-13 Dec 83 pp 12-16

[Summary] HOY commissioned the Santiago-based public opinion polling firm Diagnos to conduct a survey of several indicators of government support among the Santiago population. The population sampled was made up of 490 individuals, a sample which is claimed to be statistically sufficient for a city the size of Santiago, with a 95 percent reliability and 4.7 percent maximum margin of error.

The opinion poll was conducted on 22-23 November 1983, and yielded the following most significant results on the questions asked:

1. Did Interior Minister Jarpa achieve his objectives? (to relieve tensions and obtain results in easing economic problems) No 40.4 percent; partially 35.2 percent.
2. Are you in favor of creating a movement to support the government? No 53.8 percent; Yes 30.8 percent.
3. Are you in favor of dissolving the CNI [National Intelligence Center]? Yes 67.3 percent; No 16.5 percent.
4. Have you heard of these political groups? Following percentages answered in the positive: Democratic Alliance (opposition) 82.8 percent; Popular Democratic Movement (opposition) 45.5 percent; Independent Democratic Union (progovernment) 32.7 percent; National Unitarian Movement (progovernment) 22.8 percent.
5. Who is responsible for breaking off the dialogue? The government 38.7 percent; the opposition 12.8 percent; both 29.7 percent.
6. What's the best government form for solving the country's problems? Opposition in government without the communist 39.3 percent; unqualified opposition in government 21.6 percent; Jarpa-headed government 10.2 percent; Pinochet staying in government 9.0 percent.
7. Do you support the Pinochet government? No 59.8 percent; Yes 29.0 percent.

HAVANA CITES INTELLECTUALS ON RESTORING DEMOCRACY

PA112205 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] The delegates attending the national congress of intellectuals and artists underway in Chile denounced the violence of the tyrannic regime headed by Augusto Pinochet, and noted that only when democracy is restored in that country will it be able to eliminate the cultural isolation caused by 10 years of fascist regimes.

In a document prepared prior to the debates, they pointed out that immediate democratization is essential for cultural development, and explained that the repressive forces that have ruled Chile in recent years have neither silenced nor intimidated the Chilean intellectuals.

BOMBS EXPLODE IN SANTIAGO, DAMAGE REPORTED

PY121348 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] No casualties were reported in two bomb explosions in Santiago. One of the bombs, placed at the local police court building at 830 Almirante Barroso Street, shattered the building's windows. The other bomb went off at 1019 Herrera Street, in a neighborhood inhabited by Carabineros members, knocking down an electric pole.

Havana Reports on Bomb Attacks

PA120435 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Police sources in Santiago de Chile have reported that two bomb attacks were carried out last night, but no arrests were made.

One of the bombs went off in front of a court building, while the other bomb knocked down an electric post near a Carabineros housing project.

Three bomb attacks were carried out in Vina del Mar on Saturday. One of these attacks resulted in damage to the structures that provide lighting for the Vina del Mar international song festival.

Bank Explosion; Protest Call

PA100302 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] The explosion of a powerful load of dynamite caused serious damage today at the Credit and Investments Bank located in mid-town Santiago, Chile. Authorities have not yet identified the perpetrators of the attempt, but according to news agencies, several similar actions were claimed in past months by the Movement of the Revolutionary Left.

Other news dispatches state that the Democratic Alliance, a Chilean center-rightist coalition, called for four demonstrations to protest the Augusto Pinochet dictatorship. The demonstrations will be held in four districts in Santiago, Chile, on 17 and 18 December.

AD PRESIDENT RICARDO LAGOS INTERVIEWED

PY091430 Santiago HOY in Spanish 7-13 Dec 83 pp 22, 23

[Interview by Malu Sierra with Democratic Alliance President Ricardo Lagos -- date and place not indicated]

[Excerpts] [Question] Will your designation as temporary Democratic Alliance [AD] president mean that the AD will shift further to the left, that it will undertake more actions jointly with the People's Democratic Movement [MDP], or that it will even form an open alliance with the MDP?

[Answer] The AD will not change its line simply because it changes its president every month or every 2 months. The AD was formed on the basis of an agreement among its members and it designs its policy in keeping with that agreement. This does not mean that a president cannot place emphasis on a particular line according to his own preference and personality.

[Question] Interior Minister Serigo Onofre Jarpa says that the AD and the Communist Party [PC] follow the same line and that their platforms are identical. Will this become more apparent now?

[Answer] The AD, the PC, and other local parties want the restoration of the democracy that we all cherish. In this regard, I believe that there is agreement not only between the AD and the PC but among the great majority of Chileans.

[Question] Enrique Silva Cimma has said that he would resume the dialogue with the government if circumstances permitted. Would you do the same?

[Answer] One cannot engage in a dialogue with mere "talkers" who can put forth neither specific ideas nor specific proposals. With whom and about what one talks are the two basic issues. I would agree to talk about what is to be done to replace President Pinochet. This is the first and central issue of the dialogue. Methods can be subject to debate. The point is that the debate must be legitimate.

[Question] Do you believe that the AD might break up?

[Answer] I hope the AD will last until its goals are attained, that is, until Pinochet is replaced, a constituent assembly convened, and a provisional government installed.

[Question] Don't you think that your eagerness to incorporate the PC into the AD and your public statement that you are a potential ally of the PC weakens the AD in the eyes of a great number of Chileans who fear communism?

[Answer] Just as there are some people who fear communism, I am afraid there are a lot more who are frightened by what we have seen and suffered during these 10 years of repression, torture, and CNI [National Intelligence Center]. In addition, the AD has not raised the issue again, and I will not raise it myself during my 2-month term as president. I will not ask the AD to discuss it.

[Question] Why does the Socialist Party [PS], a Marxist party, belong to the AD, while the MDP does not?

[Answer] In the task of building a socialist society, my party expects to achieve a profound understanding with the PC through the Socialist Bloc, because in the task of changing the capitalist system, the natural ally is the PC. However, this change can be achieved only within a democratic system. Therefore, the point today is not how I can build a socialist society, but how a democratic system can be established to once again settle our disputes in a civilized manner. From this viewpoint, we understand that the AD is nothing but a great coalition of forces willing to counter the dictatorship, and that it is "the" alternative to the Pinochet regime.

We have said that the PC must belong to the AD, we did not succeed. But we do not believe this is the essential point, because there are many ways of achieving understanding with the PC. The main point is: Is it possible to form a large coalition to reconstruct Chile from the ruins that will be left? The same thing happened in Europe at the time of the downfall of Fascism and Nazism.

[Question] Should we understand that as long as the dictatorship is in power, the PS will be the ally of the Christian Democratic Party and even of rightist parties, that it will search for democracy, and that, as soon as circumstances permit, it will return to its historical ally, the PC?

[Answer] Let us put it this way: No AD member party disowns its own ideals. I have no doubt that the PS will in the long term have its own ideals to build upon and offer to the people. They will be different from the Christian Democratic ideals. We shall contend in a civilized manner and the people will make their choice among the 2, 3, or 4 sets of ideals. It is not the case of now being with the Christian Democratic Party and shifting to the PC later. Politics is more serious than that sort of opportunism. The point is that it is essential to have a democratic system; this system will have to be strengthened during a transition stage.

However, the fact that we joined the AD does not mean that we disowned our socialist ideals. Quite the contrary, we joined the AD because we want to realize our socialist aspirations within a democratic system.

[Question] Do you agree with the methods for seizing power that the PC has proposed?

[Answer] Methods depend on each society. It is not possible to assume that in the Chile of today, which already has an army, someone might try to resort to force and create a parallel army. This would be absurd.

[Question] But the subject of terrorism is not so absurd...

[Answer] Terrorism is something else. I am obviously against the kind of terrorist actions staged by the ETA, that is, by an elite terrorist organization. This has nothing to do with Marxism.

[Question] The PC sponsors armed struggle; it does not plan to assemble an army but to resort to terrorist methods, right?

[Answer] I don't believe terrorist methods will yield any results. It is easy to see: More was obtained from 5 days of protest than from riddling two generals with bullets.

[Question] Do you agree with violent methods?

[Answer] No, because I think they lead nowhere.

[Question] Not because of ethical reasons?

[Answer] There is so much violence every day for ethical reasons that I should have taken up a rifle. Social injustice gives rise to violence that in turn leads to a reaction, frequently in legitimate self-defense, which can also be violent.

[Question] You mean you have not taken up a rifle only because it leads nowhere?

[Answer] Because I don't think it is the right method, taking into account the degree of development of the Chilean society. Chile is not Somoza's Nicaragua. This country is considerably more homogeneous. We can settle our differences in a civilized manner.

HAVANA REPORTS LABOR LEADERS IN SANTIAGO ARRESTED

PA112210 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] Three labor leaders were arrested by the police in front of the Argentine Embassy in Santiago as they read a message from the National Labor Coordinating Board and the Committee for Rights of Chilean Youth congratulating the Argentine people for having reinstituted a democratic regime and for the rise of Paul Alfonsin to the position of president of the Republic.

From our country, still under a military regime, we, the Chilean youths, workers, students, artists, and residents, express our great joy on the day on which you definitely return to democracy, the message read.

INTERIOR MINISTER O ANTIDRUG OPERATIONS

PY121602 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] In a report read in the Senate, Interior Minister Luis Percovich Roca revealed today that there are close ties between drug traffickers operating in Ayacucho and Shining Path terrorists. He said that it is known that terrorists force traffickers operating in Huanta and La Mar to pay large sums of money. In this manner, the terrorists manage to obtain clothing and supplies.

After referring to Ayacucho Department as one of Peru's major coca production areas, the Interior Minister indicated that antidrug operations in that area are not as powerful as they should be because police personnel are primarily engaged in anti-subversive actions. Our correspondent at the congress building filed this report:

[Begin relay from congress building by unidentified correspondent] At exactly 1200 GMT, Interior Minister Luis Percovich Roca arrived at the Senate session room to read a report on drug trafficking and its links with terrorism. The minister, who was accompanied by the directors of the police forces, divided his report into two parts. The first included statistical data on antidrug actions staged between 1979 and 1983. The minister referred to the possible ties between drug traffickers and terrorists and noted that Ayacucho is the third largest cocaine basic paste producer among the Peruvian departments, and that it has been learned that terrorists engage in mercenary actions to help drug traffickers.

The Interior Minister also reported that the Justice Ministry pointed out to the judicial branch that it is necessary for terrorists and traffickers to serve their prison terms in top security prisons. Minister Percovich also estimated the volume of cocaine basic paste sold annually in Peru.

In the second part of his report, the interior minister referred to the action in which an investigative police patrol was ambushed in the central mountain range area of Ayacucho. He confirmed that the patrol was ambushed twice on the (Ene) river banks in retaliation for the detention of 20 drug traffickers in the area known as El Porvenir, where a clandestine airport was discovered and 200 kg of cocaine basic paste seized [word indistinct] by plane. The minister concluded his statement by expressing the hope that more members of the above patrol may have survived the ambush and by asking the Senate to urgently provide the police with equipment and weapons. [end relay] The minister also reported that police seized 20,920.9 kg of drugs between January 1979 and December 1983.

[Begin Percovich Roca recording] [In progress]...drugs seized between 1979 and 1982, there is an average of 2,800 kg per year, while the volume seized in the first 11 months of 1983 is practically 300 percent greater than that seized in the same period in previous years. The main antidrug operations carried out in 1983 are: 10 major operations carried out in the departments of Ucayali, San Martin, and Huanuco. These operations were executed by the (Tunopar) unit and the 18th and 19th units of the Civil Guard. Three hundred persons were captured and drugs, weapons, vehicles, and four light planes seized.

The Investigative Police have formulated and implemented a general antidrug plan for 1983, along with four major plans aimed, on the one hand, at fighting the commercialization and consumption of drugs in schools and critical areas of the capital, and on the other, at dismantling factories and laboratories. The police have adopted the following specific measures to fight drug trafficking: The Civil Guard has begun implementing of a training program for the units charged with dealing with all aspects of drug trafficking. This program also foresees the unification and dissemination of police regulations and procedures and the training of police air units for fighting drug trafficking. A recent seminar sponsored by the Latin American Agreement for the Struggle Against Drugs indicated that there are close links between terrorism and drug trafficking. The two survivors of the tragic action in which an Investigative Police patrol was attacked in the Apurimac River area, who are now in Lima, have provided us with sufficient information to conclude that while the patrol was taking the arrested drug traffickers to the San Francisco area, it was attacked by some 70 terrorists from both banks of the Apurimac River. [end recording]

HAVANA ON PCP STATEMENT ON ELECTIONS, REPRESSION

PA121407 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] In a recent statement, the Peruvian Communist Party [PCP] stated that the United Left [IU] victory in the last municipal elections was a great historic event for the leftist and progressive sectors. The PCP Central Committee added that the elections can be described as a plebiscite of the Peruvian people, and its result was an emphatic rejection of the current regime and its two parties, Popular Action and the Popular Christian Party. The IU victory reflects how Belaunde Terry's current regime has mismanaged economic policy, bringing about the capitulation to the IMF.

The PCP also denounced the repressive policy of the Army, which does not respect human rights in Aysacucho and persecutes poor peasants.

The PCP has decided to undertake a national campaign to end reactionary violence, especially in the central Sierra region. The campaign will ask the government to respect human rights and to have those responsible for the disappearance of prisoners brought to trial.

Reports from Lima indicate that two other provinces located near the Andes Mountains were declared emergency zones and placed under the jurisdiction of a political-military command to stop the actions of Shining Path members.

Striking workers of the Agriculture Ministry have seized the ministry in Lima and the national raw materials enterprise in a bid for wage increases. The main Peruvian workers federations have issued a call for protest demonstrations against the government for increasing taxes to finance the national budget.

Prisoners in the Fronton prison rioted and took two guards hostage. They are seeking better treatment. People accused of subversive activities are held in that prison.

HAVANA CITES DEPUTIES ON CONFISCATION OF RIFLES

PA121243 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] The Peruvian Chamber of Deputies has asked the interior minister and the Armed Forces joint command to explain the confiscation of more than 500 (?FAL) rifles that arrived secretly from the FRG. It was initially reported that the shipment was destined for the Civil Guard, but its commander has declared that he never requested the weapons.

TERRORISTS KILL CHILDREN, OFFICERS, STEAL DYNAMITE

Killings in Ayacucho

PY122229 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Terrorists have slain children and teenagers in Ayacucho. The death of 6 teenagers and children of 12 to 18 years of age, one of the most horrible crimes in an area known as Infiernillo has been confirmed. The area is located 8 km southeast of (Huanac). Government officials and journalists were horrified at the terribly mutilated bodies, which were piled up in a ravine.

Havana Reports Terrorist Attack

PA101723 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] The Peruvian interior minister has reported that a captain, two corporals, and many civil guardsmen were killed and a similar number wounded when unidentified persons attacked a bus near Huancavelica. According to the report, the attackers were members of Shining Path.

Meanwhile, General (Aldean Guayman Zenteno), who is currently chief of the Armored Division, will be appointed political-military chief in Ayacucho and conduct a counter-insurgency campaign, the newspaper CARETAS has reported.

Havana Reports Dynamite Theft

PA100016 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] A group of approximately 100 armed men attacked the Martha mine in Huancavelica Department, taking 28 huge boxes of dynamite in a well-organized operation. Several dynamiting attempts throughout Huancavelica Department had been reported prior to this incident. After the theft of the dynamite was reported, a strong Army contingent was sent to the site, but it could not locate the thieves. It was also reported that the armed group who carried out this action may be composed of members of the Shining Path guerrilla group. Homes were searched in Huancavelica but no further information was obtained.

HAVANA ON REBEL ACTIONS, HEALTH WORKERS STRIKE

PA100010 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Members of the Peruvian armed group Shining Path have attacked a Civil Defense Patrol in the province of (Zatica), Ayacucho Department, killing two policemen. In the province of Acobamba, also in Ayacucho, Shining Path rebels clashed with a military patrol, leaving four soldiers wounded.

The Peruvian Armed Forces Joint Command in Ayacucho's emergency region reported the incidents, stating that several Shining Path members were killed, but did not specify how many.

In Huancavelica Department, some 50 members of this clandestine armed organization attacked Cangallo and Chinche, setting the Municipal House in Chinche afire. Other reports note that four bodies were discovered near Huarpa, in the province of Huanta, Ayacucho Department, and that two were identified as persons who had been missing for over a week.

In the labor sector, 50,000 health workers continue to strike despite threats of salary deductions and dismissals. Yesterday some 20,000 workers from various government institutions joined a demonstration staged by the health workers in Lima's central streets, demanding, among other things, wage increases.

Worker Unrest, Prison Scandal

PA100456 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Despite threats of salary deductions and dismissals, 50,000 Peruvian health workers continue their strike -- which today enters its 26th day -- while mobilizations by fishing, state, and paper workers were announced in Puno and Cuzco Departments. On Wednesday, almost 20,000 workers from various state organizations joined the health workers in a demonstration in downtown Lima seeking wage increases and other demands.

The Peruvian paper LA REPUBLICA sums up in an editorial the general rejection of Economy Minister Carlos Rodriguez Pastor, who it describes as the architect of the disruption the country is experiencing. LA REPUBLICA stresses that the crisis in Peru is due to the fact that the governing team blindly obeys the INF's dictates. In the midst of the agitated economic-social panorama in Peru at this time, a new scandal has been unleashed in Lima over the constant escape of prisoners accused of drug trafficking. The reports state that, through payment of bribes, 494 prisoners have escaped from the Lurigancho Penitentiary in Lima in the past 3 years.

LABOR, ECONOMY MINISTERS' REPLACEMENTS ANNOUNCED

PY121343 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0201 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Montevideo, 11 Dec (EFE) -- It has been officially reported here that two members of the cabinet of President Lieutenant General Gregorio Alvarez, retired, will be replaced on Monday.

Former Uruguayan ambassador to the United States Alejandro Vegh Villegas will replace Walter Luslardo Aznares as economy minister, while Nestor Bolentini, a lawyer and retired military officer, will replace Luis Crisci as minister of labor and social security.

Bolentini, who was until today a Council of State member, has been interior minister during the first stage of the military administration. The new labor minister said he will seek to solve the problem of salaries in Uruguay.

New Labor Minister's Statements

PY130102 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Colonel Nestor Bolentini, new labor and social security minister, stated today that a total deregulation of salaries must be achieved, but that instruments to prevent the exploitation of workers must be created.

Colonel Bolentini stated that employers and employees must reach an agreement on salaries based on the situation of the sector and of the country in general. He said that if an agreement is not reached, an amendment to the salary policy must be sought. He said that the right to strike will be regulated with the taking of prior steps, such as reconciliation and arbitration in cases where no agreement is reached between the two parties. Bolentini has confirmed Ramon Malvasio as Labor Ministry under secretary.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON DIALOGUE, PROSCRIPTIONS

PY101300 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Hugo Linares Brum stated today that new political measures will be adopted next year on the lifting of proscriptions on political parties and citizens. Linares Brum said that the political parties have hardened their position, something which hinders the resumption of the dialogue with the Armed Forces. Here are General Linares' statements:

[Begin recording] [Linares] I think that the political parties have hardened their position, particularly in the 27 November act by which the Armed Forces were offended. The president of the nation has referred to these offences. This is currently another deadlock. However, I hope that the dialogue will be resumed for the good of the country and that it will conclude as scheduled, that is, with the holding of general elections.

[Unidentified reporter] General, in his address, the president asked specific questions of the politicians, questions which the politicians have answered through the news media. It is understood that it is up to the government to resume the talks, something it has already done with the National and Colorado Parties, but not with the Civic Union. What is the government's stance in this regard?

[Linares] The Civic Union is an authorized party, thus I do not see any reason why the government should not hold talks with it.

[Reporter] Has the government set a date for it?

[Linares] No, it has not.

[Reporter] Minister, what do you think is needed to continue the dialogue?

[Linares] Good will, love for the homeland, and a willingness to protect the interests of the country.

[Reporter] Will the government adopt any other political measures before the dialogue is resumed?

[Linares] I cannot predict anything because the political circumstances are subject to change. [end recording]

NEW JUSTICE MINISTER ON INDEPENDENCE OF COURTS

PY130139 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Excerpt] New Justice Minister Enrique de Frigerio has expressed his support for the use of the spoken word in trials in the administration of justice. The new justice minister also said that in his opinion, the (?written system) of court procedures functions perfectly. Regarding the independence of the judicial branch, Dr. Frigerio stated:

[Begin Frigerio recording] I understand that the judicial branch has been and is absolutely independent. The fact that the judges are designated by a council does not mean that they are not totally independent. [end recording]

NEW EDUCATION MINISTER ON UNIVERSITIES' AUTONOMY

PY130142 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Excerpt] New Education and Culture Minister Dr Juan Bautista Schoeder has stated that he will propagate the technical autonomy of the university. Upon his designation as education minister, Schoeder added that he will thoroughly study the establishment of tests to enter universities and later adopt a decision in this regard. He also said that private universities do not violate the principle of equality in education.

NATIONAL PARTY WEEKLY BANNED FOR 12 ISSUES

PY100213 Montevideo Radio Carve Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] The weekly SOMOS IDEA has been banned for 12 issues. The measure was adopted by the executive branch tonight based on institutional act No 4. In the preamble to the resolution, it is reported that the national party weekly published a photograph on its front page of a proscribed politician sought by the courts. Moreover, on page 3 the weekly explicitly referred to the platform he presented when he launched his candidacy.

It is believed that yesterday's issue of the weekly disregarded institutional act No 4 which prohibits the news media from publishing articles on proscribed citizens.

[Paris AFP in Spanish at 0004 GMT on 10 December reports that the weekly SOMOS IDEA published "a photograph of former presidential candidate Wilson Ferrerira Aldunate, who is living in exile."]

EL DIA Banned

PY121927 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Communique issued by the executive branch on 12 December]

[Text] Whereas,

In its 11 December issue, on page 4, the newspaper EL DIA carried an interview with a citizen sought by the courts whose political rights have been suspended;

In the interview the person gives his opinion on local political issues.

Taking into account that:

1. The person interviewed is not allowed to engage in any kind of political activities;
2. Institutional Act IV rules that the suspension of political rights includes the dissemination, through any means, of opinions on political issues by those persons whose political rights have been suspended.
3. The publication of the reportage has broken the proscription imposed on the person interviewed.

Therefore, in keeping with the first paragraph of Article 168 of the Constitution, with Institutional Act IV, and with decree No 464 issued in 1973, the president of the Republic hereby orders:

1. The Montevideo newspaper EL DIA to be banned for three consecutive issues starting on the date of notification of this decision.
2. The police will be notified of this decision and will be charged with guaranteeing that its terms are complied with.
3. The antecedents of this case will be submitted to the courts.
4. It is so ordered.

[Madrid EFE in Spanish at 0216 GMT on 12 December adds that "a spontaneous demonstration against the military regime took place in front of the building of the newspaper EL DIA, which has been banned by the "de facto" regime. The demonstration was staged the evening of 11 December. ["Employees of the company in charge of publishing the newspaper gathered in front of the building's doors in downtown Montevideo carrying a large sign announcing the decision to ban the newspaper for three issues. Dozens of persons began shouting 'The military dictatorship will come to an end' while passersby joined the protest. A large number of drivers blew their horns along the main avenue, thus joining the protest." "In the evening of 11 December, President Gregorio Alvarez, the fourth president of the military government, decreed the banning of the newspaper on charges of publishing an interview with exiled Blanco Party leader Wilson Ferreira Aldunate. The interview was conducted in Buenos Aires by a correspondent covering the inauguration of the new Argentine president."]

LUSINCHI OFFICIALLY DECLARED PRESIDENT 12 DEC

PA130015 [Editorial Report] Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish at 2257 GMT on 12 December begins live coverage of a Supreme Electoral Council ceremony in Caracas to officially declare Jaime Lusinchi of the Democratic Action, AD, the new president of Venezuela.

After the text of the Supreme Electoral Council report giving the final breakdown of the voting by candidate is read, an individual, presumably Venezuelan President Herrera Campins, declares Jaime Lusinchi president of the Republic of Venezuela for 1984 to 1989. Amid applause, Lusinchi is then brought to the podium.

At 2305 GMT, the president of the Supreme Electoral Council begins to speak. He reviews the efforts of the electoral council and the conduct of the elections, declaring them to have been successful. Venezuela has given an example to the world and to Latin America in particular, he states. For the fourth time, the opposition has assumed power in the country with no problems. After thanking the Venezuelan people, the executive branch, the Armed Forces, and the media for their help and support during the elections, the Electoral Council president concludes his address by congratulating Lusinchi on his victory.

At 2315 GMT, Jaime Lusinchi begins to speak, and concludes at 2329 GMT.

Lusinchi Speech

PA130230 Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Speech by Venezuelan President-elect Jaime Lusinchi at Supreme Electoral Council headquarters in Caracas -- live]

[Text] The president of the Republic; the president and other members of the Supreme Electoral Council; the vice president of the National Congress; the president of the Supreme Court of Justice; His Eminence Cardinal (Jose Anin Neurugo), archbishop of Caracas; Rafael Caldera, former president of the Republic; Vice Admiral Wolfgang Larrazabal, former president of the government junta; (Edgar Sanabria), former president of the government junta; ministers of the executive office; the governor of the Federal District; the general prosecutor of the Republic; the comptroller general of the Republic; the attorney general of the Republic; his excellency the apostolic nuncio; deans of the diplomatic corps; members of the military high command and the secretary of the National Security and Defense Council; the president of the Municipal Council of the Federal District; the rector of the Central University of Venezuela; representatives of economic organizations; representatives of worker organizations; Messrs Teodoro Petkoff, Jose Vicente Rangel, and Jorge Olavarria, secretaries general of the parties represented at the Supreme Electoral Council; Companero Gonzalo Barrios; Companero [name indistinct]; Companero (Antonio Melvi); companeros from the national leadership of Democratic Action [word indistinct];

For reasons of [words indistinct], I have been proclaimed today, at the headquarters of the Electoral Council, as the seventh president to assume power in this republic during this century through the direct, universal, and secret suffrage of the Venezuelan people. Because of an irrevocable mandate reflecting the nation's will, it behooves me to assume the leadership of the country during the 1984 to 1989 constitutional term.

Under the correct leadership of the Supreme Electoral Council, our people and Armed Forces have set a further example of their democratic calling, which we must construe as the best possible homage to our liberator, Simon Bolivar, on the bicentennial of his birth.

To our noble people, who participated in the electoral process in an ardent, conscientious, and hopeful manner, this moment and this event represent a reaffirmation of their political maturity, their ability to be critical, to make decisions, and to conscientiously exercise the sovereignty which, resting upon common men and women, constitutes the essence of Venezuela's democracy.

Magnified by the citizens gathered before me, this event is similar in significance to the one which took place a few years ago when Dr (Dario Yopez) received the right to exercise what had always been his greatest calling -- to struggle for men's lives.

At this moment of particular significance for Venezuela, let me confirm my commitment to unceasingly work for the nation's well-being during a time which we expect to be characterized by authority, seriousness, common effort, the people's understanding, and honesty beyond reproach.

Naturally -- allow me to say this now -- I invoke with gratitude the memory of those who trained me, believed in me, watched over me, [word indistinct] my life, and encouraged my passionate sentiments as a Venezuelan.

On 29 July 1982, during the event held to proclaim me as presidential candidate, I pledged to advance the banners given to me to victory. This has been accomplished. I also said at that time that the deepening of democracy is a task that cannot be fulfilled without the contribution of all sectors active in the country's mainstream, with a basic understanding of the problems that affect all of us.

Today, I wish to confirm before Venezuela as a whole the commitment of uniting Venezuela in order to take up the challenge of confronting and affirming our destiny as a sovereign and independent nation, sure of itself, free from poverty and economic vulnerability, dignified by work, and balanced by culture. Only in this way will we be able to understand the changing, emerging Venezuela that is prepared to undertake the country's reconstruction on solid foundations and on the basis of principles of solidarity.

This was the philosophy of my electoral campaign, and I am persuaded -- with great sincerity, and being unaware of other conditioning factors -- that it served as the basis for the people's decision to elevate me to the position of chief executive with the largest majority any Venezuelan has ever received.

Therefore, I solemnly declare that a broad outlook, dialogue, and the organization of my teams of aides will be the guiding principle and lodestar of my government and political action. Thus, we plan to return to Venezuelans their trust in the future, which is an indispensable starting point for beginning the work of setting the country in motion.

This also means the end of an historical stage and imposes on us the obligation to build a different Venezuela, a modern Venezuela, a Venezuela that is the product of everyone's work, a Venezuela proud of its past, but that will move with a (?vision) of and (?hope) for the future.

The 1983 elections have been definitive proof that political democracy, as a concept and lifestyle, is a value that has forever (?become part of the substance) of the spirit of Venezuelans.

This has been a political (?tenet) of my party, Democratic Action, and particularly of Romulo Betancur and the other founders of the party.

Born and raised within a popular party; substantially committed to its national, revolutionary, democratic, social, Americanist, and solidaristic doctrine, I have a clear notion that my commitment, my convictions, and my solidarity as a man will not allow me to change course under any circumstances.

I was raised alongside such clear-minded and strong Venezuelans as (Leonardo Luis Pineda) and (Alberto Caldemal). I now invoke their memory and example at this outstanding moment of my life.

For us, the fundamental objective of political democracy was never a goal in itself, but an initial, indispensable step toward a peaceful transformation -- within a pluralistic framework -- of our country's political, economic, and social structures.

Aware of this, I made social democracy and the social part -- as the instrument to carry this out -- the essential part of my message. The warm and humanitarian support I received during my candidacy today becomes a commitment to elevate Venezuela to higher standards of social development. We will achieve this by deepening and perfecting our democracy; democratizing political power and behavior; democratizing the mechanisms of participation in the areas of production and benefits for products and services; providing a more just distribution of wealth; and seeking to improve the living standards of the Venezuelans.

This plan for changes will be accompanied by clear and specific policies to reactivate the economy; to reorganize the state's administrative apparatus to make it more honest and efficient; to fight unemployment by promoting work and production; and to promote reform projects in the fields of education, health, justice, social security, and welfare.

These goals will have to be achieved at a time when the country is experiencing particularly difficult times, characterized by an inherited burdensome debt, economic pressure, inflation, budget deficits, and a weak monetary system. This will force us to work within a framework of strict austerity, and will require extraordinary efforts by the public as well as private sectors. The capacity for sacrifice and work of the Venezuelan people will be tested. But as I have said on other occasions, [words indistinct] highly optimistic because I have trust in our people, in the great moral reserves that have made and continue to make Venezuela a country with a strong vocation for history and the future. I call on these roots; on the Venezuelan people's maturity of opinion, enriched with the exercise of democracy; on their capacity to hope for and perform constructive work. With this support and the support of my party, Democratic Action, with the support and understanding of the other political parties, the workers, laborers, and peasants, [words indistinct] businessmen, intellectuals, artists, men and women of this great Venezuelan nation -- in short, with the solidarity of an undertaking and commitment that involves everyone -- we will achieve our goals for reforms and advance in peace and liberty.

In formalizing this great commitment for national unity, I would like to recall the words of Gonzalo Barrios when he proclaimed my candidacy in July 1982. At that time, Barrios said that the AD candidate would lead the revolution of the best; the best of this party, of all the parties, and from outside the parties.

Now that the electoral fray is over, I reassert the call for joint efforts. It now behooves all of us to put our country before our differences. We must dedicate ourselves to the great commitment of creating trust, overcoming uncertainty, and working unselfishly toward the great task of overcoming the crisis and building the future.

During my campaign, I said that the future presents a challenge; a challenge to close the gap of injustice, inequality, and economic and social discrimination. That future begins now. I said that when I postulated a new social order, it would be one in which the benefits achieved would be distributed equally, and one in which no one social class should aspire to benefits without responsibilities, much less under the protection of the state.

As head of state, I plan to be the first of the public servants to live and abide by this. No Venezuelan will be asked to do or be something that I am not or will not do. I am a Venezuelan of humble origins, and as such, I have achieved the country's presidency. [Words indistinct] built with my efforts and the efforts of my people. I was brought to this point by the will of the people. I know to whom I am indebted, and therefore, no one should be fooled. In this manner, [words indistinct] happy, I will not change. I could not do so without betraying myself. My future happiness will depend on being faithful to the people, truthful in my thoughts, and true to myself, as I am and as I have always been. I can only be loyal to that fatherland the poet recalled when he was far away -- the fatherland barefoot, and with no evil, with feet and water like mirrors.

I have often said that I do not believe in hate. Today, I wish to reiterate this. I will form a government without prejudice, a government that will be motivated solely by duty and law. I will show ample tolerance in the face of constructive criticism, and will always be willing to bring peace to the parties in conflict. During my term in office, the state will not be at the service of any one group or interest.

The Venezuelan people, with the depth and vitality of their political perception, clearly identified themselves with our summons to help begin putting the homeland on the right course with postulates of hope and work. In reiterating this summons, I wish to recall the words of [words indistinct], who made a call for work and hope. We are marching, said the great poet of the people. Venezuela will be and is beginning to be [words indistinct] and on its greatest day, it will come closer to the Father, to tell Him: Father, we are leaving the shadows to bathe in your light.

With your help, with the efforts of all Venezuelans, united, we are headed toward the great task of putting Venezuela on the right course. So be it. [applause]

LABOR CONGRESS LETTER TO PRESIDENT, PEOPLE

PA080304 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 5 Dec 83 p 9

[Letter from the Labor Congress of Mexico to "the president of the Republic, the working class, and the people of Mexico" on 4 December 1983]

[Excerpts] The Labor Congress, the legitimate representative of Mexican workers, aware of the historic responsibilities that it assumes through its vital relationship with the Mexican Revolution, of the need to revitalize and protect that revolution from its enemies, and of the risk that the current crisis has brought to our nation and its democratic institutions; and aware as well of the measures required to eliminate that risk, to avoid a return to the past, and to consolidate the progress made toward a superior society, believes that it is necessary to confirm and express, for the Mexican people, both its principles and platform, which it feels constitute the measures and actions required to obtain better living conditions for the Mexican people.

The Labor Congress is unquestionably the vanguard of the revolutionary process; it has made valuable contributions to the democratic guidance of our nation's economic policy; it has enriched the action taken by the revolution's regime, both ideologically and practically; it has defended the working class in an unsurpassed way; it has campaigned for an effective alliance of popular forces; and it has promoted social legislation and defended the Constitution to protect institutions that serve the interests of the working class and the Mexican people.

This will perhaps explain why the working class' goal of unity faces new, dangerous obstacles today.

The efforts to divide the workers have increased. The interference by foreign powers in labor affairs is evident, while the pressure exerted by reactionary groups is being felt more strongly than ever.

The Labor movement confirms its historic alliance with the revolutionary state and stresses its high objectives: to open the way for the great program of social changes envisaged in the General Constitution of the Republic; to promote the economic, political, and cultural changes that the nation demands; to accelerate working the class' participation in government; to ensure the nation's sovereignty over all natural resources, the country's independent development, and the social role of property; and to create a nation that is politically free and economically just.

As a result, it does not brook the subordination or submission of labor or union interests to the dictates of public power, nor does it permit any interference in the labor movement's internal affairs.

Today, the new tools to promote the emancipation of Mexico -- nationalized banking and the chapter of economic reforms contained in the Constitution -- have strengthened the Mexican state's ability to change and the chances of revolutionary progress, even amid our current difficulties.

On the basis of these new conditions, the labor class' unity and its alliance with the state necessarily demand a careful assessment of the current situation and its prospects within the context of the most severe crisis the nation has ever faced.

The labor class understands that the struggle does not mean simply attacking the symptoms of the crisis: the foreign debt, inflation, the budget deficit, etc; it also means changing the economic system that caused it. The challenge is structural change, and the current crisis is our opportunity to implement it.

The workers do not disavow our solidarity with the nation, but we have come to a point requiring concrete actions that can assure the people that their sacrifice has not been nor will be in vain; that, on the basis of this broad social solidarity with the nation's plan and its governmental system, a new system of life and development will be built: a sober and dignified way of life, reflecting the centuries-old values of the Mexican people; a way of life that has nothing to do with a consumer society, with squandering of our natural resources, with the vain ostentation and arrogance of privileged minorities; a way of life that will eliminate poverty and will moderate opulence.

This is the greatest demand of the labor class. It is of vital importance to the destiny of our people and nation, and its realization necessarily requires the achievement of at least the following objectives:

1. To accelerate the general agrarian reform process; to strengthen the peasants' political and economic organization; to encourage the collective exploitation of the land and reorganization of small property ownership; to oppose unnecessary and speculative intermediarism.
2. To lead the productive sector toward producing goods and services of good quality at reasonable prices that the nation and people need for their full development.
3. To reinforce and broaden programs to defend the productive sector and employment.
4. The state must define and implement a systematic development of the economy's social sector.
5. To strengthen the domestic market through better wages and adequate prices for agricultural products; a fiscal policy of just redistribution of income which proportionally taxes more the capital and less the products of work; the stabilization of prices; and the cleansing and strengthening of social and state commercialization systems.
6. Full orientation of the nationalized bank to strengthen strategic and priority development activities and the adoption of democratic control of its functions.
7. Direct intervention by the state in the production of staples and the Federal Government's exclusive commercialization of corn, beans, and wheat.
8. To strengthen the popular, national, and revolutionary nature of the government and to expel representatives of reactionary forces from its ranks.
9. Workers' participation in the decisionmaking of public and private enterprises.
10. An educational system based on extolling human endeavour as the supreme value for social coexistence and the source of man's dignity.

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MEXICO

The working class, today more united than ever, firmly believes in the Mexican Revolution. If, by incapacity, lack of faith, neglect, or dishonesty the revolution has suffered deviations, this has been contrary to the principles, programs, and objectives of the revolution. The Mexican Revolution, the state of revolutionary origin, the Constitution, the workers, the peasants, and the middle class federations are the major result of an indefatigable and sustained struggle by the people for their happiness, progress, and independence. Now is not the time to destroy those institutions, as internal and external reaction wishes, but to renew and improve upon them, because it has been proven that they lead to the attainment of the high aims of the Mexican people.

Sincerely,
Unity and Social Justice,
Mexico City, 4 December 1983

For the Labor Congress: the president, Homero Flores Gonzalez;
Confederation of Mexican Workers: Fidel Velazquez, secretary general;
Revolutionary Confederation of Workers and Peasants: Alberto Juarez Blancas, secretary general;
Trade Union Federation of Government Workers: Manuel German Parra Prado, secretary general;
Regional Confederation of Mexican Workers: Antonio J. Hernandez, secretary general;
Revolutionary Labor Confederation: Angel Olivo Solis, secretary general;
Union of Railroad Workers of the Republic of Mexico: Jorge Oropeza Vazquez, secretary general;
National Union of Mine, Metallurgical, and Related Workers of the Republic of Mexico: Napoleon Gomez Sada, secretary general;
Federation of Workers of the Federal District: Joaquin Gamboa Pascoe, secretary general;
Mexican Trade Union of Electricians: Jorge Tapia Sandoval, secretary general;
Trade Union of Petroleum Workers of the Mexican Republic: Senator Salvador Barragan Camacho, secretary general;
General Confederation of Labor: Lorenzo Valdepenas Machuca, secretary general;
Telephone Workers Union of the Republic of Mexico: Francisco Hernandez Juarez, secretary general;
National Trade Union of Education Workers: Alberto Miranda Castro, secretary general;
Federation of Labor Groups: Jose Garcia S. Almaguer, secretary general;
Trade Union Association of Aviation Pilots: Homero Flores Gonzalez, secretary general;
Revolutionary Confederation of Workers: Mario Suarez, secretary general;
National Trade Union of Social Security Workers: Mateo de Regil Rodriguez, secretary general;
Union of INFONAVIT [Institute of the National Fund for Workers Housing] Workers: Rafael Riva Palacio Pontones, secretary general;
National Actors Association: David Reynoso, secretary general;
Union of Movie Production Workers of the Republic of Mexico: Sergio Vejar Cervantes, secretary general;
National Federation of Theater Workers Unions: Rafael Solana, secretary general;
Union of Technical and Manual Workers of Movie Production Studios and Laboratories, Similar and Related Workers of the Republic of Mexico [Sindicato de Trabajadores Tecnicos y Manuales de Estudios y Laboratorios de la Produccion Cinematografica, Similares y Conexos de la R.M.]: Jose Cruz Ruvalcaba, secretary general;

"Martin Torres" National Confederation [Confederacion Nacional "Martin Torres"]: Efren Ramirez Pachicano, secretary general;

Revolutionary Federation of Textile Workers: Antonio Cruz Ordaz, secretary general;

Association of Aviation Stewards: Rene Canseco Urrutia, secretary general;

National Cane Workers Federation: Vicente Andrade, secretary general;

Confederation of Workers and Peasants of the State of Mexico: Jesus Moreno Jimenez, secretary general;

Linotypists Union of the Republic of Mexico: Luis Ruelas Balbaneda, secretary general;

Alliance of Streetcar Workers: Francisco Munguia Alejos, secretary general;

Industrial Trade Union of Wool and Related Workers [Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores del Ramo de la Lana y Conexos]: Ignacio Rosas Flores, secretary general;

Union of Workers of NOVEDADES Editors [Sindicato de Trabajadores de NOVEDADES Editores]: Alberto Serrano Serrano, secretary general;

Federation of Trade Unions of Workers in the Service of State Governments, Municipalities and Decentralized State Institutions of the Republic of Mexico [Federacion de Sindicatos de Trabajadores al Servicio de los Gobiernos de los Estados, Municipios en Instituciones Decentralizadas de Caracter Estatal de la R.M.]: Alfredo Zarza Villegas, secretary general;

Sole Trade Union of Nuclear Industry Workers: Arturo Whaley Martinez, secretary general.

BRIEFS

INVESTMENTS IN AGRICULTURE -- President Miguel de la Madrid approved the 90-billion peso investment plan with which the government will contribute to the 1983-84 autumn-winter season agricultural program. The government is financing 60.5 percent of the program. Other state enterprises and the nationalized banks will finance the remainder. [Summary] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 5 Dec 83 p 1A, 9A, 10A PA] The Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources Secretariat announced that the government will invest 159 billion pesos in hydraulic infrastructure works for agriculture. This amount is almost equivalent to the 166 billion pesos invested in this area by previous governments during the past 56 years. [Excerpt] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 5 Dec 83 pp 1A, 23A PA]

UNIONS HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE -- Representatives of the Salvadoran Labor Unity Committee, CUS, and the [Guatemalan] National Committee of Labor Unity, CNUS, held a press conference in Mexico City yesterday, at which they issued a joint call to all international union organizations to stop the Reagan administration's interventionist plans for Central America. Israel Marquez, Ricardo Villegas, Oscar Ortiz, and Francisco Paredes also attended the press conference. [Summary] [Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 7 Dec 83 p 2 PA]

NEW AMBASSADOR TO EGYPT -- Jorge Palacios Trevino has been appointed new Mexican ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt. [Mexico City NOVEDADES in Spanish 3 Dec 83 p 6 PA]

IDB LOAN -- The IDB on 2 December granted Mexico a \$130-million loan to finance a technical assistance program for agriculture. [Summary] [Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 3 Dec 83 p 1 PA].

ECONOMIC CABINET RESOLVES ELECTION FUNDS DISPUTE

PA120300 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 11 Dec 83 pp A-1, A-18

[Text] The discrepancies that developed recently between the Electoral Tribunal and the Planning Ministry regarding the appropriation of funds for the 1984 elections have been fully resolved by the economic cabinet, a group that gives advice to the president and the cabinet, and that replaced the financial commission. Following the installation of the economic cabinet, its president, Presidency Minister Mario de Diego, reaffirmed the interest of President Ricardo de la Espriella in the matter, and his determination to give all required support to the Electoral Tribunal so that it can efficiently carry out its duty of organizing and serving as an arbiter in next year's elections.

The economic cabinet, which is also comprised of the finance and treasury minister, the commerce and industries minister, the comptroller, and the managers of the National Bank and the National Savings Bank, analyzed with the members of the Electoral Tribunal the allocation of funds for that institution. Cesar Quintero, president of the Electoral Tribunal, admitted that recent discrepancies were caused by a misinterpretation of the procedures that must be followed by state agencies in making a request for special budget allocations.

After the Electoral Tribunal magistrates explained the urgent needs of that institution, the economic cabinet approved a recommendation to the executive branch to increase the 758,000 balboas originally requested by 100,000 balboas in order to cover the tribunal's needs to 31 December 1983, as a special allocation to be charged to the 1983 budget. It was also agreed that the budget for the 1984 elections will be set at 5.9 million balboas, independent of the normal budget for the tribunal for the same period of time, which was established at 5.6 million balboas.

The government officials and the magistrates agreed to establishing better communication in order to prevent the reoccurrence of situations such as that just resolved, and promised to devote their efforts to strengthening the normal development of the 1984 electoral process.

IMMIGRATION DIRECTOR ON PLAN TO CONTROL ENTRIES

PA121151 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] Director of Immigration Raul Roger has declared that the flow of Central American immigrants into Panama is not alarming at this moment. The following is a report on this:

Raul Roger, national director for immigration and naturalization of the Government and Justice Ministry, has told this newscast that approximately 10,000 Nicaraguans have moved to Panama since 1930, and that 1,300 of them are currently in the country.

Regarding the so-called immigration bomb, Roger said that it poses no problem at the moment, but that the national government will nevertheless establish controls to ensure that immigration into Panama will be orderly. He then referred to a fantail plan which will go into effect tomorrow and remain in effect for approximately 6 months.

[Begin Roger recording] Yes, we have a plan, and we will begin implementing it next week. It consists of establishing at our border with Costa Rica, in the area of Chiriqui... [changes thought] we will deploy personnel in a fan-shaped fashion. We will set up checkpoints in close succession along the entire border, and will then establish other checkpoints and lookouts further from the border, and more separated from each other, until a common point, which is the city of David, is reached.

We are doing this because we presume that persons immigrating to Panama will be interested in settling in the more populated areas, where they can find the best health services, employment, and living conditions; thus, their objective will be David.
[end recording]

SPECIAL EFFORTS URGED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CBI

PA120415 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 11 Dec 83 p A-4

[Editorial: "Panama Under the Reagan Plan"]

[Text] Even the most fiery opponents of "Yankee imperialism" and the most severe critics of President Reagan's policy have admitted that the Caribbean Basin initiative [CBI] entails not only incentives for the social and economic development of countries in this area, but a new and more equitable trend in U.S. relations with our country. In fact, even though it includes substantial economic assistance, the CBI is fundamentally based on the opening of the vast U.S. market to our exports and the establishment of incentives for U.S. investors and businessmen to promote industrial production in the area.

As Vice President Ozores correctly told hundreds of U.S. business leaders in a speech recently, it is not the cash loans, which carry heavy interest rates, that can most effectively contribute to solving the area's economic woes. The most fruitful means, the measures that can really and consistently help strengthen our economy, create jobs, and consolidate peace and social stability, are an expansion of export opportunities, a more equitable pricing policy for our products, and a more dynamic role on the part of investors, as well as transfer of technology to our countries.

The CBI is oriented to these objectives. Therefore, it behooves our countries' governments and private enterprise to respond constructively to this new U.S. Government initiative. In order for these measures to be developed and expanded into consistently productive programs, it is necessary that they be matched by our legal and structural conditions and the determination and efforts of local investors, businessmen, producers, and workers.

Panama has been included in the first group of countries that has been officially granted the opportunities and benefits offered under the Reagan plan. Our geographical location, natural resources and conditions, infrastructure, and the incentives established by the national government precisely fit the framework under which maximum advantage can be obtained from the implementation of these programs. All that is needed now is that our businessmen and workers act with the determination and sense of balance required for the opportunities given to us to bear the fruit demanded by our nation's highest interests.

EL SALVADORPEACE COMMISSION PRESIDENT INTERVIEWED

PA090355 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 8 Dec 83 pp 2, 21

[Excerpt] "The Peace Commission will meet with the guerrillas again, as we are willing to continue with our talks. Therefore, I think it would be premature to make any predictions about the success of the negotiations," Francisco Quinonez Avila [president of the Salvadoran Peace Commission] said yesterday during an interview with EL DIARIO DE HOY.

Quinonez Avila added: "We think that this is the path we should follow. We believe that if the rebels change their attitude, we should be able to find ways to incorporate them into the process of attaining democracy and peace, which is being conducted in El Salvador with so much effort and sacrifice."

On another subject, we asked Quinonez, who is also leader of the Salvadoran Popular Party, PPS, about the possibility that this party will nominate a woman as its candidate for vice president of the Republic.

Quinonez replied: "First of all, it has been said that I will be the PPS presidential candidate. I don't deny this, even though I am not interested in the nomination and I don't think I deserve it. Nevertheless, our national convention will be held at our party's headquarters in this capital on 18 December, and a decision will be made at that time."

FPL ISSUES COMMUNIQUE SCORING DEVIATION

PA110023 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Official communique issued by the Farabundo Marti People's Liberation Forces, FPL, of El Salvador, 9 December 1983]

[Text] The Central Committee of the Farabundo Marti People's Liberation Forces, FPL, member of the FMLN, informs the working class, the Salvadoran people, peoples of the world, sister revolutionary organizations, the world revolutionary movement, and progressive governments, that in the course of the complex, difficult, and -- though full of sacrifices -- victorious struggle of the Salvadoran people in search of liberation, in the face of the oligarchy's very violent and genocidal military dictatorship, which is supported, financed, and advised by Yankee imperialism, the FPL, together with other revolutionary organizations belonging to the FMLN, has been applying, developing, and advancing its strategic line by using the rich experience of our revolutionary process and that of other peoples of the world.

In August 1983 we held the seventh plenary session of our Revolutionary Council, the highest ranking organization of the FPL. During this meeting, characterized by hard work, seriousness, responsibility, and a high degree of political and ideological consciousness, the members of the council discussed and elaborated the main problems confronting our organization and our people's war. They provided our party and people with:

1. A complete evaluation of the murder of Commander Ana Maria, our second highest ranking official, and the suicide of Marcial, our highest ranking leader. A scientific evaluation of the facts was made.
2. Strengthening of our primary leadership bodies -- the Revolutionary Council and the Central Committee -- by appointing our first and second secretaries.

3. A thorough analysis of the national and international situation, of military developments, and of the correlation of forces, domestically and internationally. The strategic guidelines to be followed during the current period were adopted by returning to and enriching our general strategic guidelines.

As a result of the evaluation and of the investigations into the painful murder of our companera, Melida Anaya Montes, Commander Ana Maria, an act which should be repudiated, along with the suicide of Salvador Cayetano Carpio, Marcial, the FPL Revolutionary Council reached the following conclusions:

During the last years of his life, Salvador Cayetano Carpio, our highest ranking leader and commander in chief of the FPL, underwent a process of political and ideological deterioration that led to serious deformations and deviations, culminating in the murder of Companera Ana Maria. He was the main promoter and person responsible for her murder. His deviations included the following:

1. Marcial developed an exaggerated sense of self-esteem that led him to think of himself as the most consistent, pure, and irreproachable revolutionary in our country and the region as well, to think of himself as the true and sole interpreter of the feelings of the Salvadoran proletariat and our people. He enjoyed flattery and praise, and wanted to put himself and his ideas above those of the group and of party organizations. He protected and paid attention only to those who flattered him blindly, and he looked on others with distrust. He saw those who did not accept his decisions as a threat to the revolution and as tools for the enemies of the revolution.

2. Because of this exaggerated sense of self-esteem, Marcial began to fall into serious political backwardness and he was unable to meet the historical demands of the development of our revolution. Marcial clung to schemes and to dogmatic, sectarian ideas which, together with his stubbornness, became an obstacle to the FPL's progress and negatively influenced the unitarian process of the revolutionary forces, damaging the effort to achieve the liberation of our people.

Meanwhile, the combat experience achieved at the cost of the lives of thousands of companeros, as well as through the teachings of other revolutionary struggles, led the bulk of our organization, directorate, cadres, and rank and file, to advance in their struggle, enriching their minds and developing guidelines.

3. Marcial's deviations became more serious as the war developed and as the necessary internal ideological struggle grew. Carpio adhered to his opinions, and with the negative characteristics of his personality, he took advantage of his position as leader of the FPL to make his opinions prevail.

He began violating our party's operational rules and failed to respect the decisions and agreements made by our leaders. He began to go behind the party's back. The most deplorable aspect of Carpio's attitude was that he then turned against Companera Commander Ana Maria, Melida Anaya Montes, second in command of the FPL. Because of his exaggerated self-centeredness, he viewed Commander Ana Maria as a rival. He felt that Commander Ana Maria was overshadowing his prestige.

Marcial began deviating from our organization's way of thinking and from our leadership organization. The leaders of the organization never supported his attitude against Commander Ana Maria.

While the FPL leaders remained close to the party and continued to fight side by side with our people, Marcial continued to stray, surrounding himself with a group of people who saw him as a source of prestige and authority within our party. These people paid homage to Marcial's personality.

They flattered him with a degree of fanaticism that, even though it did not consume the minds and feelings of the FPL members, did affect some companeros.

5. In January and February 1983, the FPL's Political Committee and the Central Command met to prepare the Seventh Revolutionary Council. At that time, all the members of the Central Command, except Marcelo and Marcial, approved agreements and measures to strengthen our general strategic lines. New conditions were created to ensure the advance of the people's liberation war. Salvador Cayetano Carpio, as a member of these organizations and as their leader, had ample opportunity to argue in favor of his viewpoints. He did not do this with honesty, or before the group. He never had the proletarian courage to present his ideas before the leadership bodies, the Political Commission, and the Central Command. Instead, he used reproachable and incorrect methods.

At the same Central Command meeting, he tried to confuse the members, making insulting statements about Ana Maria that contradicted the most elemental norms of revolutionary ethics, morally degrading himself. But his foul actions and ill intentions were rejected. Thus, Marcial suffered a political and moral defeat at the hands of the entire Central Command plenum, with the sole exception of Marcelo. The Political Committee and the Central Command, however, had not yet perceived the depth and the real seriousness of Marcial's ideological deviations. That was why these organizations adopted measures constructively intended to allow him to mend his ways, and to strengthen the unity and cohesion of our party, the FPL.

6. The group made its criticisms and recommendations to Marcial in the most fraternal fashion, at the same time advancing conditions, within the framework of the party, for him to overcome the problem as a revolutionary. The Central Command, demonstrating its maturity and high consciousness and spirit as a party, reiterated its confidence in Marcial as the primary responsible person and founder of our organization, and in his ability to overcome his weaknesses and to correct his deviations. Marcial, however, no longer responded to the collective interests of the party, of the revolutionary forces, of the working class, or of the people. Marcial was no longer the popular leader he had once been. Serious political, ideological, and moral changes were already affecting his behavior and personality, adding to the fact that he lagged behind in realizing the political-military characteristics and the nature of the revolutionary process and our party.

7. Salvador Cayetano Carpio, having already lost a sense of perspective and the respect of the FPL, which deserves the people's trust, blinded by his political ambitions and his fanatic self-exaltation, ordered and planned, together with Marcelo, the murder of our companera, Commander Ana Maria, thereby forfeiting his leadership status. In this action he used a group of fighters subjected to military discipline, in complicity with Ana Maria's bodyguards. When his intentions were revealed, Carpio, in a final act of political cowardice, chose suicide to evade his responsibility and save his name, which was already tarnished by his own infamy. He preferred to die clinging to his self-deification and selfishness.

Before committing suicide, Marcial added to his already undisciplined political cowardice a new infamy, by writing several letters, one of which, addressed to the Central Command, presented the facts as a conspiracy by false revolutionaries, against what he described as his immaculate career as a true revolutionary. Thus, Marcial left behind a poison to continue harming the revolution and our organization in a desperate, unseeing maneuver to save his image, above all. His participation in the assassination of Ana Maria, however, is totally confirmed. The Seventh Revolutionary Council of the FPL, held in Chalatenango in August 1983, at which conclusive evidence was submitted, studied the matter in depth, and issued a resolution unanimously condemning Marcial. These events are unprecedented within the FPL.

Nevertheless, because confusion, resentment, opportunism, and a fanatical cult surrounded Marcial's personality, a few former compañeros were led astray, to the extent of leaving our party, trying to divide the FPL's internal unity, using methods harmful to the revolution and to our people, methods that only benefit the enemy. This group maintains the sectarian, anti-unitarian positions of the past, upheld by Marcial, denying the FMLN's role as revolutionary vanguard and proclaiming itself the sole representative of the working class. It denies the role that all the democratic and progressive forces can play alongside the working classes, and is imbued with a deep anti-party concept.

This group of individuals is linked to the Salvador Cayetano Carpio labor movement, which recently emerged, and it intends to exalt the image of Carpio before our people, hiding what is clear and proven: that because of his ideologic deterioration, Marcial ended up betraying the interests of the working class and our entire people, causing irreparable damage to the revolution.

In the face of all the slander promoted by this group concerning alleged deviations of the FPL and the FMLN, the following are indisputable: The mighty advance of our revolution, the categorical political-military victories of the popular forces, the critical situation of the dictatorship, the unquestionable advance of the unitarian process, and the consolidation of the FMLN.

The revolutionaries know well the practices and measures designed by imperialism and by the forces of reaction to destroy the revolutionary movement. One of their main objectives is to divide the people's vanguard organizations. In our country, there are numerous efforts and measures on the part of Yankee imperialism and its domestic puppets to divide our people's vanguard, the FMLN, and its member organizations. Everyone knows that recently in Grenada, a group of revolutionaries was used, directly or indirectly, by imperialism to provoke division and confrontation within the New Jewel Movement, which created conditions allowing the Yankee imperialist aggressors to justify and carry out the invasion of Grenada, inflicting a strategic blow to the revolution there.

We call on this group to engage in sober reflection and to realize that its attitude is harmful to the interests of the proletariat and of the people, since it only benefits the enemy. The attitude of every revolutionary in the face of the nefarious plans of imperialism, the oligarchy, and its puppet dictatorship should be aimed at strengthening the internal unity among the revolutionaries and consolidating the FMLN. In conclusion, the FPL Central Committee wishes to inform the Salvadoran people and the peoples of the world:

1. That we tell all those confused compañeros that our ranks are open to all who wish to rejoin and to close ranks in order to unify our efforts to defeat the enemies of the people.
2. That we condemn the brutal murder of our companera, Commander Ana Maria, second in command of our organization, and those responsible for it -- Salvador Cayetano Carpio, Marcial, Rogelio Basaglia, Marcelo, and the others. Likewise, we reprove Carpio's cowardly suicide.
3. That the irreparable loss of our unforgettable companera, Melida Anaya Montes, promoter and bulwark of our people's unitarian thought, strengthens the fighting morale of our organization, the decision to strengthen the unitarian development of the FMLN, and the decision to continue our struggle, furthering our love of the people and our determination to win victory and freedom and to carry the revolution against imperialism and exploitation to its final conclusion.
4. That the FPL is firmly bound to the working class and the people. Our strength, conviction, and determination are based on the trust and the unlimited creative and revolutionary capacity of the proletariat and the people, and on absolute confidence in the people's victory.

5. That the FPL, as a revolutionary organization, tempered in the course of the heroic struggle of the Salvadoran people, is capable of purifying itself and of firmly advancing in the promotion of the people's unity and in the development of the revolutionary struggle.

6. That the plenary meeting of the Seventh Revolutionary Council ratified the organization's political-military strategic line, and enriched it on the basis of the new experiences and demands of the revolution. The name given to the Seventh Revolutionary Council -- All the People Determined to Defeat Yankee Imperialist Intervention -- dedicated to our second in command, Commander Ana Maria, and other heroes and martyrs of the revolution, embodies the spirit and disposition of the FPL and the entire people to fight and defeat the Yankee troops and other imperialist puppet nations that might dare to attack our territory. At the same time, it determined the guidelines to contribute, with the FMLN, to achieving the people's definite victory.

7. Finally, we call on the working class, the working people, and the democratic and progressive sectors not to allow themselves to be confused by the slanderous and deceitful campaign spread by the enemy and by all those who directly or indirectly play along with the enemy; to join, on a broad scale, the revolutionary armed struggle; to contribute with it in the decisive and final battles against the enemies of the people; to promote the struggle firmly demanding immediate political, economic, and social vindication; to take the necessary steps to prevent intervention in our country by the Yankees or by any other force, and to act with determination in confronting any attempt to attack our country; to strengthen our people's unity around their vanguard, the FMLN; and to close ranks against our class enemies.

Long live the political, ideological, and organic unity of the FPL! Long live the FMLN! War on imperialism, the oligarchy, and its puppet dictatorship! Revolution or death, the armed people will win! Proletarians of all countries, united to fight until final victory! Revolution or death, we will win!

[Signed] For the FPL Central Committee, the members of its Political Commission: Leonel Gonzalez, first secretary and commander of the People's Liberation Armed Forces [FAPL]; Dimas Rodriguez, second secretary of the FPL and second in command of the FAPL; Companeros Milton, Salvador Guerra, Esteban Cabañales, Mayo Cibrián, Ricardo Gutierrez, Jesus Rojas, Valentin, and Miguel Castellano. [Dated] Chalatenango, 9 December

REBELS INFLICT HEAVY LOSSES ON ARMY IN JUCUAPA

PA100325 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Information received from Jucuapa, Usulután Department, indicates that our rebel forces have dealt a bitter blow to the forces of the dictatorship, causing heavy casualties to the enemy ranks and seizing a large number of weapons, including rifles and a 60-mm mortar.

On Thursday, 8 December, puppet Army troops belonging to the special Atonal and Cazadores Battalions and units of the 3d Brigade of San Miguel, commanded by the genocidal Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, began an operation in the Jucuapa and Chinameca Range sector. The enemy's advance began from Jucuapa, Chinameca, Papayal, and Las Placitas. On the same day, heavy fighting ensued with forces of the FMLN's Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade near San Antonio, Ojo de Agua, and Tapesquillo. The fighting continued throughout Thursday, and today, Friday, fighting is still going on at Las Marias, (Ocote Dulce), and Candelaria. In all of these actions, the enemy has suffered heavy casualties of dead and wounded. Our forces inflicted 18 dead and 70 wounded on the enemy. In addition, our forces seized 5 U.S. M-16 rifles, ammunition, 1 60-mm mortar, and other war materiel.

The troops of Domingo Monterrosa made desperate use of artillery fire and Air Force bombing in this densely populated area, murdering several residents of the civilian population of Jucuapa, Usulután Department.

This report was submitted by Commander (Silvio de Jesus Argueta), Commander Licho.

Further Jucuapa Clashes

PA112220 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Martí in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] In the Jucuapa-Chinameca ranges, rebel forces are fighting troops trained by the Yankees. The strong fist of our people in arms overpowers the troops of the dictatorship, enabling us to seize more weapons and war materiel.

On 8 December, units of the Atonal and Cazadores Battalions and forces of the 3rd Brigade in San Miguel, led by the criminal Monterrosa, launched an offensive from Jucuapa, Chinameca, El Papayal, and Las Placitas, over the Jucuapa-Chinameca Range, San Miguel Department.

The puppet troops were attacked near San Antonio, and the fighting extended through Ojo de Agua and Zapotillo. The fighting continued yesterday near Las Marias, Ocote Dulce, and Candelarias.

Up to this point, the enemy has suffered many casualties. Thus far we know of 18 soldiers who were killed and 75 who were wounded. The dead included several troops leaders. Meanwhile, our forces have seized five M-16 rifles and one 60-mm mortar.

Criminal Domingo Monterrosa will again attest to the ineffectiveness of the U.S. counterinsurgency manuals.

Onward, fighters of the people's army! Onward, fighters of the FMLN! In the face of the dictatorship and imperialist intervention, the people's unity toward victory!

Havana Notes Jucuapa Fighting

PA112209 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] The rebel station Radio Venceremos reported that FMLN forces killed 18 soldiers and wounded 75 others in fighting in the coffee-growing region of Jucuapa, Usulután Department.

The report added that several civilians were killed by the indiscriminate bombings launched by the Air Force and artillery of the Salvadoran regime against the residents of the towns of Las Marias, Jocote Dulce, and Candelaria.

FMLN COMMENTS ON U.S. INTENTIONS IN C.A.

FLO92106 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0202 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Mexico City, Dec 8 (NOTIMEX) -- Honduras, as a U.S. military base, is used by Ronald Reagan as a point from which to pressure not only El Salvador and Nicaragua, but all of Central America, said Antonio Hernandez, coordinator of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN-FDR) in Mexico. The FMLN coordinator in Mexico indicated that his organization has demanded several times that the U.S. arms race be stopped and that Ronald Reagan reconsider his position of making his country an aggressor toward Central America.

Hernandez stated that El Salvador's internal struggle will end only if a political solution is found by the parties involved or if one of the sides finally wins. He said that the FMLN does not foresee victory in the near future; it is counting on the complete support and sympathy of the people in reaching an agreement through negotiations or through the use of the military.

Gilberto Lopez y Rivas, coordinator of the Mexican Committee of Solidarity with El Salvador, said that the danger of regionalized war in Central America is a latent possibility enhanced by U.S. interference and the bellicose attitude of Ronald Reagan, who intends to confront the Central American nations for reasons of self interest.

He also stated that Nicaragua may not be the next victim of the United States, but that a possible U.S. invasion might be directed toward El Salvador and continue from there into the whole region.

On the internal struggle in El Salvador, he explained that the Salvadoran Army had been reduced from 28,000 soldiers to 21,000 because of the routs it had suffered. Seven thousand soldiers have died and hundreds of them have been wounded, he said.

REBEL LEADER CLAIMS U.S. PLANS 3 NEW BASES

PA092158 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1403 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 9 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- The United States plans to open three new military training bases in El Salvador, according to concurring statements by a ranking Salvadoran rebel leader and a prominent Western diplomat.

Guerrilla leader Ruben Zamora told REUTER in an interview here that the training centers will be installed in the provincial capitals of Sonsonate, La Union, and Zacatecoluca as part of the increased U.S. fighting role in that war-torn country.

A ranking Western diplomat in Central America said that the U.S. Army plans to open the camps to bolster the war effort of the 24,000-man Salvadoran Army against the leftist guerrillas. A U.S. official in the region said that the first camp could begin operating in February. This was the first indication that the Reagan administration plans to increase the number of U.S. military instructors in El Salvador beyond its self-imposed limit of 55.

Zamora said that the camps could lead to an eventual U.S. intervention in a combat role against the guerrilla forces. "In that case, the three bases would become targets of the FMLN; therefore, they must be given extensive security or sooner or later there will be an attack and combat. U.S. soldiers will die and Reagan will have to send more troops," he said.

Zamora noted that the Army does not run the risk of losing the war in the short term, but added that if it continues to deteriorate and the rebel offensive is maintained, the Army could collapse in 1 year.

Earlier this month, Zamora told REUTER that if the Army's situation worsens more rapidly, the Reagan administration, the main source of weapons and funds for El Salvador, could be forced to use combat troops in that country.

I doubt that Reagan would send all his troops at once, he said; instead, I think he would gradually increase its combat role beyond the present, training functions. He said that the guerrillas learned about the installation of the new training camps from Washington and Salvadoran sources.

HAVANA EXAMINES CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATIONBush Visit; Archbishop's Homily

PA121711 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] U.S. Vice President George Bush has met in San Salvador with Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana and Defense Minister General Eugenio Vides, to whom he reiterated U.S. support. Bush arrived in San Salvador yesterday en route to his country, after attending the inaugural ceremony of Argentine President Raul Alfonsin and making a brief stopover in Panama City, where he met with Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella.

According to reports from San Salvador, Vice President Bush will also meet with leaders of political parties recognized by the government, and with the ultrarightist Major Roberto D'Aubuisson.

Monsignor Arturo Rivera y Damas, archbishop of San Salvador, has accused Alvaro Magana's regime of ignoring the UN resolution in which the highest international organization urged Salvadoran Government authorities to respect human rights. In his Sunday homily, Rivera y Damas reported new cases of missing people, including university professor Juan Francisco Aguirre, kidnapped on 23 November, and once again condemned the death squads operating in El Salvador.

FMLN Will Not Vote in Elections

FL100226 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2110 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] From San Jose, Costa Rica, comes a report that the FMLN has stated that it will not lay down its arms and has reiterated its refusal to participate in the presidential elections set for next year. The FMLN is winning the war as enemy positions are annihilated step by step, and our army is becoming bigger and bigger in the Departments of Chalatenango and Usulután, rebel sources stated to the (?TALPRESS) AGENCY.

The Salvadoran rebels, they added, are working hard on the reactivation of the economy in areas where local people's governments are functioning, and are growing stronger militarily. The Salvadoran Government is trying to use the announced elections to legalize a murderous government and to deceive a part of the people, the rebels stated.

FMLN on U.S., Military Bases

PA112148 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] The Salvadoran regime's attempts to dislodge guerrillas from coffee producing areas in eastern El Salvador have failed for the third consecutive day. FMLN forces confronted and successfully repelled specialized battalions during clashes in San Miguel Department, where 19 soldiers were killed and 75 were wounded. The Salvadoran regime has suffered this new defeat a few hours before the arrival of U.S. Vice President George Bush, who will be accompanied by Langhorne Motley, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs.

Bush will meet with the appointed provisional Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana, Defense Minister General Eugenio Vides Casanova, and leaders of the right wing and extreme rightist parties that comprise the Constituent Assembly. Radio Venceremos, official voice of the FMLN, said George Bush and his hosts will discuss the implementation of new U.S. recommendations on tactics to be followed in the struggle against the guerrillas.

According to Radio Venceremos, the United States has recommended the resumption of large-scale cleanup operations, with the intention of forcing guerrillas to move toward the Honduran border, where they would be exterminated in a joint operation involving Honduran and U.S. troops.

This week Radio Venceremos announced that U.S. forces currently maneuvering in Honduras, as well as troops of the Tegucigalpa regime, are concentrating in areas near El Salvador's Morazan Department, a stronghold of the FMLN guerrillas.

The FMLN and FDR warned that the installation of U.S. military bases in Salvadoran territory will lead to the first clashes between U.S. troops and rebel forces.

Salvador Samayoa and Ruben Zamora, members of the FMLN-FDR joint political-diplomatic commission have reported that these bases will be installed in the Salvadoran departments of La Union, Sonsonate, and Zacatecoluca, and that two bases will be located within the theater of military operations.

The two Salvadoran guerrilla leaders had a short meeting in Mexico City with a delegation of U.S. senators, and told them that they don't believe in the U.S. Government promises that death squads operating in El Salvador will be eliminated.

The U.S. senators proposed guaranteeing security for guerrilla leaders if these groups decide to participate in the presidential elections that Alvaro Magana's regime has scheduled for next year. Samayoa and Zamora discarded this possibility, stating that at issue is not the question of security for the leaders alone, but for all of the people.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA VICTORES PROMOTED TO DIVISION GENERAL

PA122029 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 12 Dec 83 p 4

[Text] The military junta has unanimously approved the promotion of Brigadier General Oscar Mejia Victores to division general. The head of state is currently in Argentina to attend Raul Alfonsin's inaugural ceremony.

The agreement on his promotion was signed this morning by Colonel Rodolfo Lobos Zamora as acting chief of state, and will be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE. The date of the promotion ceremony has not yet been revealed, but it will take place before the end of the year.

The promotion of the head of state was explained by Colonel Lobos Zamora, who indicated that the junta approved it unanimously. They met to analyze and review the Army's new law, and one of the commanders proposed the promotion, which was then immediately approved by unanimous decision, he said.

Colonel Lobos was asked by a journalist if the people still fear that there will be another coup d'etat. "I will answer the question with an absolute no, which is confirmed by the announcement of General Mejia Victores' promotion," he said.

He added that Guatemala is on a new road toward democratization, and that no one has any thoughts of a coup d'etat. Evidence of this is to be found in the trip by the head of state and in the military leaders' unanimous approval of his promotion.

HONDURAS SAID TO HAVE BECOME 'COLONIAL ENCLAVE'

PA091850 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 9 Dec 83

["Guatemala Flash" editorial: "The Problems of Honduras"]

[Text] We will never tire of lamenting the deep water in which Honduras finds itself. It has lost practically all its sovereignty. The fatherland of proud Lempira [Indian leaders who fought against the Spaniards] has been turned into a colonial enclave that is in fact occupied by foreign troops. It must be noted that we highly respect and esteem the sister people of Honduras, most of whose citizens lament -- even though silently, due to the circumstances -- the affront being suffered by their homeland.

Due to his high office, it would be insulting to describe the Honduran constitutional president, who was elected in legitimate elections, as a puppet, but he has unfortunately been unable to, has not wanted to, or has not known how to exercise that mandate and instead has mortgaged his country's sovereignty and dignity. This is a harsh but true statement.

One still remembered with indignation the widely publicized incident during Reagan's imperial visit to Honduras when a gringo cop in civilian clothes inspected the rifles of the Honduran cadets who were in the honor guard one by one so as to check that the weapons were unloaded. No Honduran official batted an eye in the face of such an insult.

Honduras recently gained international prominence again when its government decided to militarily prevent the arrival of a few U.S. nuns who had planned to hold peaceful demonstrations against the U.S. military occupation of Honduras. When a regime fears nuns, it is showing great weakness. It maintains an indefensible position without any moral excuses. It is unable to explain or justify the mortgage of national sovereignty. We should let this be an example to us so that such a situation will never occur in Guatemala.

HONDURASALVAREZ SPEAKS AT ARMY ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY

PA120132 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1628 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Speech by Division General Gustavo Adolfo Alvarez Martinez, Honduran Armed Forces commander, during a ceremony to mark the anniversary of the founding of the Honduran Army; in Tegucigalpa -- live]

[Excerpts] His Excellency Roberto Suazo Cordova, constitutional president of the Republic and Armed Forces commander in chief; His Excellency, the representative of the president of the honorable National Congress; the president of the Supreme court of Justice; honorable presidential designates; members of the cabinet; their Excellencies former members of the military government junta; former heads of state and former presidents of the Republic; former Honduran Armed Forces commanders in chief; members of the diplomatic and consular corps and of international organizations accredited to our country; most illustrious and most reverend Monsignor Hector Enrique Santos, archbishop of Tegucigalpa; members of the Armed Forces Supreme Council; military attaches of friendly countries accredited to our government; representatives of the news media; Honduran Army commanders, officers, cadets, noncommissioned officers, corporals, and auxiliary personnel; Armed Forces representatives; special guest; ladies and gentlemen:

I sincerely greet all persons present at these commemorative ceremonies on behalf of the national Army and on my own behalf.

We deeply appreciate your presence, especially that of the president of the Republic and the delegations of friendly countries, which by joining us in these dedication ceremonies, further enhance the unforgettable significance of the events we hold today, while at the same time providing them with a true framework of international fraternity. Please allow me to reiterate my gratitude.

On 11 December 1825, 158 years ago, the national Army was legally formed. Although it was formed at the initiation of our republic, the Honduran Army experienced unstable and turbulent development as a result of internecine struggles promoted by persons having reprehensible political ambitions and meddling foreign powers which tried to influence the exercise of power in our country.

The Army is a product of our Honduran homeland. It emerged from it and draws sustenance from it. We must acknowledge the fact that its development has been difficult, and that its successes and mistakes have had a profound impact on our republic's course of development and on the Army itself. Our internecine struggles, in which biased, and most often politicized, civilians and military men participated equally, led to the spilling of valuable Honduran blood. Under no circumstances should we allow this to happen again in our country.

I mention this with a particularly strong emphasis because at this critical stage in our history there are perverted Hondurans who, in collusion with international and extra-continental groups, are trying to destroy our institutional system of freedom and democracy in all its forms. They seek to stain this generous land with blood and to plunge it into the abyss of anarchy and terror for the dark purpose of usurping power and installing in our country a totalitarian, Marxist regime, a tyranny based on the communist ideology, which, as we all know, denies and suppresses the human values that they, in a perverse attempt to deceive our people, claim to be struggling for.

That is why, soldiers, we must have a very clear idea concerning our functions and the missions which the nation has entrusted to us. What are we, as an Army; what are our duties as members of this Army?

As an Army, we are an institution created by the people through the Constitution. We are part of the executive branch and are subordinated to the president of the Republic. We are the armed wing of the people; we draw our strength from the people; we stem from the people and identify ourselves with their best interests and their most cherished hopes, in solidarity and in a close and very affectionate manner. [applause]

We have been organized as an Army to respect, obey, and defend our Constitution and laws; to protect and serve the people; to preserve their freedoms and rights, and never to oppress or persecute them. [applause] We constitute an Army to defend the nation's security as related to its territorial integrity, sovereignty, freedom, self-determination, internal peace, and public order.

We must remember that the aggression we are currently enduring is not limited to direct actions. It also seeks, as one of its nefarious and abominable goals, to undermine, subvert, and destroy the elements that maintain the nation's cohesiveness and unity. Therefore, it is equally important to uphold and strengthen the ideas that guarantee the normal course of events in Honduras, based on democracy. It is the duty of the Army to cooperate and participate in the country's overall development. One of its main duties is to provide guidance and orientation and to train patriots through the military service rendered by the citizens.

It is also our duty to take an active interest in promoting everything that tends to consolidate our nation's unity.

We must also understand that we comprise a force that must remain confined within the institutional bounds established by the Constitution. This entails discipline. Its confining bars are represented by military rules and justice, and its guardians are honor and duty.

With emotion that stems from a most sincere recognition, I wish to thank His Excellency the President of the Republic and the sovereign national Congress for the promotion of several distinguished members of our Armed Forces to the rank of brigadier general of for the honor accorded to me through promotion to the rank of division general.

With sincere devotion, I invoke at this solemn moment the Lord's protection for the Republic of Honduras, its people, and our Army, and ask Him to guide us as soldiers with His providential wisdom so that at every moment and under all circumstances, no matter how difficult, we will know how to fulfill our patriotic duties.

With true pleasure I reiterate my cordial greetings to the national officials and officials from friendly countries, and to the honorable guests who have attended these events to mark the anniversary of the founding of the Honduran Army. I fervently hope that the future will bring them prosperity, honor, and happiness. Thank you for your kind company, and may God bless you. [applause]

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT VIEWS NICARAGUAN DEBT

PA121641 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Interview with Honduran Central Bank President Gonzalo Carias Pineda by Milton Mateo; no date or place given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Mateo] What kind of arrangement has been reached with the Nicaraguan Government for the payment of their debt, which is over \$15 million?

[Carias] Nicaragua owes us approximately \$17 million, and has since the beginning of the revolution. We have reached an agreement with Nicaragua. They have paid us the interest on the debt, and we have given them 5 years to pay [the principal].

The arrangement has been reached. We had been concerned because we had not received any information from Nicaragua for quite some time. But I finally spoke with the president of the Nicaraguan Central Bank. They will pay us in 5 years. They have already paid 50 percent of the interest on the \$17 million they owe us.

[Mateo] How is commercial activity between Honduras and Nicaragua faring?

[Carias] Commercial activities have not been suspended. We are extending some credits, we are selling some articles. I don't know which because it is the economy secretary who handles that, but I believe a bilateral agreement will be negotiated between Honduras and Nicaragua.

The problem is sales from Nicaragua to Honduras. What can they sell us? They do not have much to sell. That's why there is a sales deficit. If they could sell us items we need, such as fertilizers and production equipment, we would be pleased to buy from them.

NICARAGUAORTEGA DISCUSSES POSSIBILITY OF U.S. INVASION

PA121945 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1505 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Interview granted by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, in Buenos Aires, broadcast by Buenos Aires Radio Continental's "Magdalena and the News" program "about 2 hours ago", no date given, questioners not identified -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] There has been considerable talk of a probable U.S. invasion of Nicaragua, and this was the subject of comments by leaders of various foreign delegations here in Argentina. How close is that invasion?

[Ortega] The North Americans have spoken about an invasion. Some 4 to 5 days ago, the U.S. President did not rule out an act of intervention in Nicaragua. He has said that whenever the necessary conditions exist in Nicaragua, they are ready and willing to intervene. If to this expressed desire of the U.S. leaders to intervene in and invade Nicaragua -- an action that also threatens El Salvador -- we add the U.S. military presence in Central America, as exemplified by the troops in Honduran territory, warships surrounding Nicaraguan territory, daily overflights by U.S. spy planes, and pressures on other Central American states to become involved in actions against Nicaragua, then the danger of direct U.S. intervention has certainly not been removed from the Central American region.

[Question] In regard to the global strategy pursued by the two powers, do you think a possible U.S. invasion of Nicaragua could unleash a Soviet reply?

[Ortega] I don't think so. The Soviet Union has clearly expressed its rejection of U.S. policy in Central America, but this does not necessarily commit the Soviet Union to responding to any possible U.S. intervention in Central America, specifically in Nicaragua. We are not a party to any military pact. We are not members of NATO or of the Warsaw Pact. We are not a part of the socialist community. We are a part of Latin America, Central America and the Nonaligned Movement. Therefore, the solidarity against and response to a U.S. attack must come initially from the Nicaraguans, the Central Americans, the Latin Americans, and the members of the Nonaligned Movement. Still, under those circumstances, we are certain that we would receive massive international support, regardless of ideologies.

[Question] As for support, do you think that the support that Nicaragua currently has among some European powers is stopping the United States?

[Ortega] I think that the primary factor preventing such a U.S. attack is the degree of organization and morale of the Nicaraguan people. The threat of invasion has recently forced our people to increase their efforts to prepare for defense so that they may resist, fight, and defeat any possible U.S. intervention. I think that this is the main thing holding the United States back. In addition, I cannot underestimate another important element that is restraining the United States, that is, the international support and solidarity we receive from Latin American and European governments, and the rejection of U.S. policy by such governments -- particularly those that have good relations with the United States, those to which the United States listens, and those which have rejected the U.S. policy of force.

PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS TO CONTINUE SUPPORT, AID

PA110455 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0040 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] Managua, 10 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge today rejected the charges that his leftist government has not fulfilled the promises that it made to the people before it assumed power in 1979.

Borge stressed: "We have either fulfilled, or are fulfilling, these promises." Borge mentioned the agrarian reform program, the expropriation of the lands of former dictator Anastasio Somoza, the halting of the exploitation of Nicaragua by foreign companies, and the literacy program for workers and peasants as examples of the achievements of the Sandinist revolutionary government.

The interior minister was speaking to representatives of more than 100 private organizations from 23 countries that comprise a group which provides humanitarian and technical aid to Nicaragua. The group opened a meeting here 4 days ago. A communique which was issued at the end of the conference states that the group will continue to support development programs in Nicaragua and will take steps to try to increase assistance in this country. The communique adds that efforts will also be made to put a stop to what it terms discriminatory policies against Nicaragua by international credit organizations such as the World Bank and the IDB.

BUSH 'DOUBTS' ABOUT SANDINIST REGIME NOTED

PA121449 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Panama City -- After only 7 hours on Central American territory, U.S. Vice President George Bush clearly showed his ample support for the Salvadoran Government, while evidencing serious doubts about the Nicaraguan regime.

In his brief, 100-minute stop in Panama, Bush referred to the Nicaraguan authorities as traitors to the principles that inspired the Sandinist revolution.

His doubts were even more evident when asked about the promulgation of the amnesty recently announced by the Nicaraguan Government. Noting that the amnesty and the announcement on the 1985 elections were interesting signs, Bush nevertheless assumed a wait-and-see attitude on the issues, while describing El Salvador as a courageous nation marching toward democracy amidst terrible pressures. He did note, however, that some of the heaviest pressure comes from the U.S. Congress. Finally, he said that the Reagan Administration supports the Magana regime.

GOVERNMENT CHANGE OF ATTITUDE TOWARD MEDIA HAILED

PA121532 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios, codirector of the daily LA PRENSA, now considers the government's attitude toward the newspaper positive. He adds that Radio Sandino has given him the opportunity to voice his views freely. He has no complaints in that regard.

[Begin Chamorro recording] I have noticed a change of attitude, mainly in the communications media owned by the state and controlled by the FSLN. Concerning LA PRENSA, I believe there has been a marked improvement as to the censored material; that is, censorship has been reduced considerably, to the extent that we have been allowed to reproduce some editorials.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Chamorro Barrios, how has Radio Sandino treated you?

[Chamorro] Each time I have visited Radio Sandino I have been treated very courteously. In fact, I have been invited to visit the station on other occasions, but due to the situation concerning LA PRENSA prevailing at the time, I had to refuse. However, I have again been invited to visit the station, and am considering doing so in the near future.

As far as I am concerned, Radio Sandino has played a very objective journalistic role, having allowed me to express myself freely on the programs in which I have appeared such as "Direct Line" and "Turning the Screw." [end recording]

PCDEN LEADER ADDRESSES ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

PA120150 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2357 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] Managua, 11 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Eli Altamirano, secretary general of the Communist Party of Nicaragua [PCdeN], today criticized various aspects of Sandinism and called for a "negotiated political solution" for the problems of Central America. Altamirano, who spoke at an event held in a theater in the capital commemorating the PCDEN's 13th anniversary, maintained that the Sandinists should not have taken the Central American issue to the United Nations. However, he warned his followers, who were listening to him speak at the "Gonzalez" Theater, that Nicaragua's independence or the revolutionary process must not be negotiated. This notwithstanding, he said that electoral and media laws "of a democratic nature" must be issued for the democratization of the country.

Altamirano added that private radio newscasts that were halted by the government when the state of emergency was decreed in March 1982 must be allowed again.

According to the communist leader, an amnesty is also necessary for political prisoners of the civic opposition, but without confusing them with Somozist Guardsmen. "They should not be released because they are assassins of the people," he stressed.

The communist leader noted that the socialist society is not the result of decrees or "the will of any leader or cliques." He added that the stage which the revolution is undergoing right now is necessary and should "be allowed to run its course." He emphasized that a mixed economy is currently in effect in the country.

Altamirano criticized the proposal presented by the so-called "Democratic Coordinating Board," an opposition group, calling for a national dialogue under the auspices of the Contadora Group.

After describing the group's proposal as "unpatriotic," he stated that the communists agree with the idea of holding a "national meeting" to determine measures to democratize Nicaragua.

Altamirano said that the PCDEN will participate in the 1985 elections with its own candidates, and on the basis of a platform "with a democratic content, advocating national independence."

PEASANTS RETURN FROM HONDURAS; 25 REBELS KILLED

PA101554 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] As a result of the confidence in the guarantees established by revolutionary law, the first 25 peasants who had gone to Honduras after being deceived by the counterrevolutionaries' propaganda returned to Nicaragua yesterday, through Santa Maria, Nueva Segovia Department. A report published by EL NUEVO DIARIO indicated that 16 more peasants are expected to arrive in that area within the next few hours. This was announced by Companero Carlos Manuel Gonzalez, delegate in that area for the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, in a meeting at the Le Segovia Theater in Ocotal.

Meanwhile, in southern Nicaragua, 25 counterrevolutionaries were annihilated in a thwarted attempt to seize San Juan del Norte, an Interior Ministry report indicated.

The enemies of the people began to harass the town of San Juan del Norte on 5 December and the actions ended on 8 December with positive results for our combatants, who were victorious in this new effort to defend the Nicaraguans' sovereignty and independence.

Havana on San Juan del Norte

FL101824 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Reports from Central America indicate that Sandinist forces have repelled an attack on the town of San Juan del Norte, in Nicaragua, near the Costa Rican border, killing 25 counterrevolutionaries and wounding numerous others.

Groups of attackers harassed the town on 5 and 6 December, and on Wednesday, 7 December, they began an offensive with the support of mortar fire of various calibers, and machinegun and rifle fire. That attack was pushed back and the attackers were pursued to the Costa Rican border.

Further on EPS Actions

PAL11955 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] The Sandinist People's Army [EPS] has killed more than 25 counterrevolutionaries who attacked the border town of San Juan del Norte near Costa Rica. The official report stressed that the attackers were repelled and forced to withdraw to their operational bases in Costa Rican territory. Early in the week, 28 other anti-Sandinists were killed in clashes with EPS patrols in northern Nicaragua.

ARDE REPORTS 30 SANDINISTS KILLED IN CLASHES

PAL10450 Paris AFP in Spanish 0013 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] San Jose, 10 Dec (AFP) -- The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) headed by Eden Pastora, announced the death of at least 30 Sandinists in five separate clashes in the southern part of Nicaragua.

Several communiques released today in this capital -- where the ARDE headquarters are located -- reported that on 6 December a rebel column entered the town of El Almendro, Azucena jurisdiction, and clashed with Sandinist forces. In the fighting, which lasted 2 hours, heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy, while only one counter-revolutionary was lost.

On the same day, an ARDE squad harassed Sandinist forces in Cano el Coco, at the mouth of the Punta Gorda River. During the attack, which lasted 20 minutes, the Sandinists suffered eight dead and four wounded.

The information also reported another harassment action on 7 December, on a farm in the San Jose municipality. In the action, "the enemy was forced to retreat in disarray," while "our forces firmly maintained their positions in the south, as well as in mid Zelaya." ARDE announced that also on 7 December, its forces faced the Nicaraguan army in San Jose municipality, north of the Punta Gorda River. In the fighting, seven Sandinists were killed and several were wounded. Finally, it claimed that 15 Sandinist soldiers were killed, while ARDE lost 2 combatants, in a clash on the railroad line in San Juan del Norte on 7 December.

HAVANA DETAILS MINISTERS' POSITIONS, STATEMENTS

PA112320 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge has stressed in Managua that despite the fact that his country wants peace, the alternative of war is still present in U.S. policy. The government of President Ronald Reagan talks about peace, but points a gun at our head, Borge stressed in a speech closing the first meeting of non-governmental organizations.

Speaking on behalf of the FSLN National Directorate, Borge denied that the Nicaraguan revolution had changed its tactics with the peace proposals and internal measures that were approved recently. We have not changed our intentions because we have a revolution here, and there will continue to be one, he stated.

In Nicaragua, Ortega [as heard] stressed, land distribution will continue, socioeconomic projects will continue, the weapons will be in the people's hands, and there will continue to be political and moral solidarity with the Latin American peoples.

The Nicaraguan interior minister reiterated that the country is determined not to negotiate with leaders of counterrevolutionary bands that attack our country from Honduras and Costa Rica. They are, Borge noted, dogs trained by the same master, and there can't be any reconciliation between the people and their murderers.

Borge denied that the Sandinist government has not kept the promises made to the Nicaraguan people, a charge made by rightist parties and unions in Nicaragua. The only promise we made to the people, he emphasized, is that we will never again be slaves of a foreign power, and we are willing to give our own lives to defend this goal.

The first meeting of international nongovernmental organizations concluded with a resolution expressing full support for Nicaragua and condemning the use of force against the peoples. Over a 3-day period, 100 nongovernmental organizations from 23 countries analyzed the effectiveness of mechanisms of mutual support for socioeconomic projects and studied forms of cooperation for drafting plans of common interest.

Those who attended the forum said that the extreme poverty of the Latin American peoples is a result of the heavy burden of the foreign debt, monetary speculation in the United States, and the large sums devoted to the arms buildup. They also recognized the marked inequality in land tenure and noted that high inflation and unemployment rates cause human suffering. After praising Nicaragua's achievements in a period of slightly more than 4 years, the forum firmly condemned economic, political, and military aggression, as well as the campaign of misinformation unleashed against the Sandinist revolution.

Wheelock Views Land Titles

PA122017 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Yesterday the Nicaraguan Revolutionary Government delivered more than 700,000 hectares of land to individual peasants and cooperatives, which constituted another firm step in applying the agrarian reform in that Central American country.

In a ceremony held in the Chontales Department, Jaime Wheelock, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, delivered titles for some 50,000 hectares, which will benefit more than 500 peasant families.

Land titles were also delivered in the departments of Rivas, Madriz, Matagalpa, and Masaya.

In his speech, Wheelock recalled that so far the Nicaraguan Revolutionary Government has delivered 400,000 hectares of land to peasants, which is five times more than they were allowed to have throughout the history of Somoism.

Wheelock reiterated that more land will be distributed, and assured efficient producers that their properties will not be expropriated.

Also on Sunday, numerous peasants benefitted from the government's exemption of debts amounting to more than \$300,000.

Defense Minister on Contra Attack

FL101730 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Commander Humberto Ortega, Nicaragua's minister of defense, has declared that the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] has successfully repelled attacks by counter-revolutionary bands. He said that the counterrevolutionaries tried last month to take control of a part of Nicaragua along its northern coast, but that they were repelled by the EPS.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN CREDITS -- Nicaragua received \$148 million in credits from the GDR in 1983. Of this amount, \$120 million were to be used to purchase farm machinery and equipment, and \$28 million to import raw materials. A GDR mission arrived in Managua this week to sign an agreement for an additional credit of \$27 million, to be used in 1984. In addition, a textile factory worth close to \$30 million will be built with financing from the FRG, the USSR, and Czechoslovakia. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Dec 83 PA]

HEALTH COOPERATION WITH CUBA -- Havana -- Nicaraguan Health Minister Lea Guido, who is participating in the 24th meeting of Health Ministers of Socialist countries starting today in Cuba, has said: The relations between Cuba and Nicaragua regarding public health matters have reached great dimensions. She also said the public health sector in Nicaragua has faced great difficulties and problems; however, the results obtained thus far are significant. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 1 Dec 83 PA]

CANADIAN DONATION -- Next week Canada will donate 11,000 tons of wheat, worth approximately \$2.2 million, to the Nicaraguan people. It has been reported that the PLI [Independent Liberal Party] negotiated this donation. [Text] [Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Dec 83 PA]

EEC DONATION -- The EEC has officially reported its decision to donate 4,000 metric tons of wheat to our people. The shipment will arrive at the port of Corinto in early January 1984. The Soviet Union has already sent a new donation to Nicaragua: 200 tons of powdered milk. [Text] [Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Dec 83 PA]

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA CONDEMNS U.S. PLANS, ACTIONS

PA120500 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Dec 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Nicaraguan Defense Minister Commander Humberto Ortega has charged that the danger of a U.S. military invasion of his country has never been more imminent. At no other time have tensions in the Central American area been higher, and they are increasing with the U.S. presence in Honduras and off the Nicaraguan coasts.

To the extent that Nicaragua has been defeating Somozist counterrevolutionary groups, the danger of a war with Honduras increases. It is the only policy option left for U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

The Nicaraguan defense minister explained that several counterrevolutionary contingents composed of known mercenaries have been gathered in Honduras with the brutal intention of launching an offensive against Nicaragua. The same is happening in the border region with Costa Rica in southern Nicaragua.

Ortega said that Costa Rica's effort to maintain neutrality is being constantly sabotaged by the CIA through support for and the introduction of counterrevolutionary groups into Nicaragua. In the past few months, the U.S. Government has not been hiding its interventionist intentions against Nicaragua. On Friday, President Reagan signed a law authorizing the allocation of additional funds -- this time \$24 million -- so that the CIA can increase its support for Somozist counterrevolutionaries.

Last week, Richard Stone, the U.S. special envoy for Central America, met with known counterrevolutionary leaders in Panama City and Miami to unite the groups of former Somozist Guardsmen, mercenaries, and adventurers of the worst kind, who are divided because of feuds and ambitions nurtured by the promises of their imperialist master. With total blatancy, Fred Ikle, U.S. under secretary of defense, said in September that it was vital for the United States to prevent the consolidation of the Sandinist revolution in Nicaragua.

Every effort made by the U.S. Government to create the image that a civil war is underway in Nicaragua has been fruitless. The Nicaraguan Government categorically rejected attempts to include representatives of counterrevolutionary groups in a national dialogue because they are artificial forces created and financed by Washington through the CIA. Nicaragua's decision was categorical when it stressed that it has no interest in, or need to engage in, any negotiations with armed counterrevolutionary groups.

In addition, the United States has used every resource to promote the failure of the Contadora Group's efforts to seek peace. If the U.S. Government truly wanted peace, an agreement in that direction would have been reached long ago.

All these incidents combine to create a situation that is very dangerous. It seems that the United States doesn't want to understand the consequences of a direct military intervention in Nicaragua.

For this reason, a statement, intended as an advance warning, made by Commander Daniel Ortega in Quito is very important: If Washington invades Nicaragua, it will be defeated militarily, in the medium-or long-term, in a war of popular resistance. We know that the United States is a military power that can be defeated, the coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction stressed.

COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED 13 DEC WITH PDRY

FL130206 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] A cooperation protocol between the Communist Party of Cuba and the Socialist Party of Yemen was signed today in Havana. This act reflects the fraternal relations that unite the two countries. The document was signed by Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the Politburo, and 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of foreign relations of the Socialist Party of Yemen.

FOURTH MILITARY MEDICAL CONFERENCE CLOSES

FL121610 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] The permanent, main working branch of FAR's medical services constitutes the effort to elevate the quality of medical services at all levels, while taking into account that the conditions for providing adequate medical attention are continuously being created and increased. Division General Rogelio Acevedo, vice minister of FAR and commander of the FAR's Rear Service, stated this at the closing ceremonies last weekend at the Palace of Conventions at the Fourth Working Seminar of National Scientific Medical-Stomology of the Directorate of Medical Services of the Central Rear Services Headquarters of the FAR. The seminar was named in honor of the 150th anniversary of Carlos J. Finley.

He also said that all the educational and investigative work we do should not sway us from our principal objective, which is to provide quality assistance to our patients. He added that military medical science should, above all, promote the fighting capacity and strength of combat soldiers.

NATIONAL BANK NOTES DROP IN SUGAR PRODUCTION

PA101935 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1459 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Havana, 9 Dec (EFE) -- A decline of more than a million tons in sugar production for the 1982-83 period resulted in a decrease in import revenues and in sum, had an impact on Cuba's economic progress.

The most recent figures disclosed here by the National Bank of Cuba and the State Committee for Statistics indicate that the sugar harvest was limited to 7.2 million tons by heavy rains and storms that scourged the island early this year. The effects of this drop in production were increased by decreases in world market prices of .0637 cents per pound of raw sugar and .086 cents per pound of refined sugar.

As Cuba's economy is irrevocably tied to fluctuations in this market, the revenue from exports in convertible foreign exchange decreased by 35 percent when compared with the first half of 1982.

The exports in convertible currency amounted to \$554 million and imports were \$378 million; thus, the trade balance in foreign exchange was \$176 million at midyear. However, this positive balance is not the result of trade with countries that have market economies, but of trade with socialist countries, which pay Cuba in foreign exchange for certain products.

Currency exchange, per an agreement with CEMA countries, increased, particularly with the Soviet Union. In this regard, exports amounted to 3,265,100,000 pesos and imports were 2,477,600,000 pesos.

It can be surmised from the recently published official report that almost 90 percent of Cuba's economy is linked to CEMA, and that it is particularly close to the USSR, which not only supplies oil and other products to Cuba, but makes certain payments to the island in foreign exchange, as well. It is unlikely that this trend will change in future, given the Cuban officials' desire to save on foreign exchange in order to guarantee the island's reserves and to pay the interest on its foreign debt.

In fact, in terms of reserves, Cuba was able to increase its cash by \$92 million. Thus, at the end of June its reserves amounted to \$205 million.

According to the figures published in the National Bank report, the foreign debt to Western banks and organizations remained at \$3,279,000,000 approximately one third of which has been renegotiated.

The document also indicated that total commercial production grew by 4.4 percent and that the drop in sugar exports was compensated for, in part, by an increase in the sale of tobacco, fish, naphtha, and other nontraditional products.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDAMARSHALL DISPLEASED AT U.S. DELAY OF CBI STATUS

FL121910 Bridgetown CANA in English 1646 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, Dec 12 (CANA) -- Antigua has indicated its displeasure at a United States delay in granting the island beneficiary status under the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), an aid, trade, and investment package for noncommunist states in the Caribbean and Central America. Acting Foreign Minister Hugh Marshall said the delay was due to Washington's demands that the state-run ABS television here get written permission before broadcasting American television programmes picked up via satellite.

Under the CBI, the U.S. is making more than 300 million dollars available in cash aid and is granting duty free access for certain exports from beneficiaries. Last week in Bridgetown, Antigua's neighbours in the Caribbean Community (Caricom) -- Barbados, St Kitts/Nevis, Dominica, St Lucia and St Vincent received certificates of designation under the CBI.

Marshall said that Antigua is presently seeking the consent of U.S. TV networks before using their material. He viewed the episode as an American attempt to dictate to Antigua and Barbuda. "I want to know if this is the quality of the friendly relationship that America strives for with small territories like Antigua and Barbuda," Marshall said. He added, "They have had (military) bases operating here for over 50 years without making financial contributions, and for a few cents, they have lawyers sitting in the State Department trying to wring the necks of Antiguanians. "We are friends of America, not puppets of America," Marshall said.

Marshall said all but one of the U.S. television systems, ESPN, were "happy to learn" that their programmes are being telecast in Antigua and have not demanded any compensation.

He said Antigua and Barbuda had always been at the forefront fighting a CBI-type programme and regarded the U.S. position as a "diplomatic slap" in Antigua's face. He said that was the reason why the country "excluded itself" from last week's ceremony in Barbados.

The White House said last month that only a paperwork delay kept Antigua from being granted beneficiary status.

GRENADABRATHWAITE ANNOUNCES 1984 ELECTION PREPARATIONS

FL122310 Bridgetown CANA in English 2332 GMT 12 Dec 83

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 12 (CANA) -- Grenada's interim government has started the process that will lead to the island's first general elections since 1976. If everything goes according to plan, the poll will be held by Christmas, 1984 and an elected administration should be in place by year-end.

As a first step to reactivating the electoral process, Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon will announce the appointment of a supervisor of elections within two weeks. The newly-appointed official will travel to Barbados at an early date for talks with electoral officials there. Barbados has offered to assist Grenada in the compilation of a voters list.

"Between March and May, enumeration will take place and following that we would then be in a position to appoint a month by which elections will be held," said Nicholas Brathwaite, chairman of the interim government. "The Advisory Council is committed to the holding of elections within one year. What I am saying is that by Christmas next year, I hope that instead of being in the position which I now occupy, I would be on the beach...hoping for a future in Grenada where free and fair elections will become the standard practice and not a periodic exercise," Brathwaite said.

Grenada's last elections were won by Sir Eric Gairy's Grenada United Labour Party (GULP) but three years later he was ousted from power by the New Jewel Movement (NJM) in the English-speaking Caribbean's first coup.

Last October 19, Maurice Bishop was killed and ousted in an army coup. Six days later, U.S.-led troops invaded Grenada to remove the military from power. The interim government (Advisory Council) was appointed to run the country until elections can be held.

Said Brathwaite, "The whole philosophy underlying the participation of members of the Advisory Council on this body is the belief that a people have a right to elect a government of their choice. And we are not going to stay in office a day longer than is necessary for that process to take place."

Brathwaite said under Grenada's 1974 Constitution, partly back in force after its suspension in 1979 by the former left-wing government, the supervisor of elections has full responsibility for the conduct of the poll. The council will in no way seek to influence the officer in the course of his duties, he added.

He said he expected all parties in existence before the 1979 coup will be allowed to take part if they wish, as long as they adhere to rules and regulations laid down by the supervisor of elections. "The question of which party or which individual as an independent would contest will be one that will be determined by the rules of the election and not by the Advisory Council," the chairman said. "The supervisor of elections works independently on the basis of the Constitution and we are anxious to ensure that the constitutional provisions are honoured."

"It is not for us to determine in advance which party, which individual, or which group will participate in the election. We are not the ones to determine what rules will obtain with respect to the election," Brathwaite added.

Sir Eric's GULP won 9 of the 15 seats in 1976. The remaining six seats went to a coalition of opposition groups led by Bishop.

Brathwaite said the interim government could not heed to suggestions that there should be changes in the 1974 Constitution before any election is held. "The Advisory Council does not have a mandate to prepare a new Constitution," he said. "The 1974 Constitution itself has in-built provisions as to how it could be changed. Included in that is the provision for a parliament and so as far as I am concerned, constitutional changes will have to await the election of a new government."

It's not yet known how many parties will contest the election nor has the campaign been officially launched. But some groups are already at work behind the scenes to sound out the mood of the people, informed source told CANA.

Will Close Havana Embassy

FL121721 Bridgetown CANA in English 1509 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Reudon Eversley]

[Text] St George's Grenada, Dec 11 (CANA) -- Grenada will eventually close its diplomatic mission in Cuba, but there are no plans at present for a total break in relations with Havana, according to the head of the island's 3-week-old interim government. "We do not intend for the moment to break off diplomatic relations with Cuba, but what we would prefer would be that these diplomatic relations be conducted at a nonresidential ambassadorial level," said Nicholas Brathwaite, chairman of the Grenada Advisory Council.

He told the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY (CANA) in a interview that Grenada had approached a "friendly" country which had agreed to look after the island's interests in Cuba. Some aspects of the arrangement are still to be concluded and as a result it would be unwise to identify the country at this stage, Brathwaite said.

Grenada became Cuba's closest ally in the English -- speaking Caribbean during the 4- and -1/2-year rule of the left-wing People's Revolutionary Government (PRG), which was ousted in the bloody October 19 (?takeover). Following the U.S.-led military intervention 6 days later, Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon downgraded relations with Havana and expelled Ambassador Julian Torres Rizo and all other Cuban officials, except Charge d'Affaires Gaston Diaz.

Brathwaite rejected Cuban charges that the new Grenada authorities were stalling negotiations on the return to Havana of Cuban construction equipment here and an aircraft damaged during the October military operation. He said the hold-up in fact stemmed from Havana's insistence that Cubans must be allowed to come here to oversee the return of the aircraft and equipment. "We are prepared to let Cuba have back its equipment and its aeroplane, but it must be clearly understood that Cuba is in no position to dictate to a sovereign nation exactly how this should be done," Brathwaite said. "We would prefer the arrangement to be made through a mutually acceptable third country so there's no question of stalling. There's question here of procedure," the Advisory Council chairman added.

The bulk of the Cuban equipment, including tractors and heavy duty trucks, was used in the construction of the half-built Point Salines International Airport project in which Cuba had made a substantial investment. The project, the biggest and most important undertaken by the administration of slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, caused a strain in relations between Grenada and the United States. Washington, whose troops ironically were the first to use the completed runway, had persistently charged that Cuba would use the airport for the spread of communist subversion in the region.

Comments on Caricom Relations

FL121925 Bridgetown CANA in English 1520 GMT 12 Dec 83

[By Alister Hughes]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 12 (CANA) -- Grenada hopes that the current division in the Caribbean Community (Caricom) over the U.S.-led invasion of the island can be healed, chairman of the interim government, Nicholas Brathwaite said.

"We hope we can help heal the wounds, but the fact remains that it is difficult for us to take the initiative. It has to be a combined effort..." Brathwaite said in an interview. "We are hoping that countries which initially indicated that they would not recognise the interim government will have a change of heart and realise that the people of Grenada are the ones who experienced a relief as a result of the action," Brathwaite said.

Seven Caricom states provided troops and policemen for the invasion, but four others opposed military intervention. Guyana, one of those in opposition, went further and said it would not recognise any government that emerged after the invasion.

Brathwaite said his provisional administration had not made any contact with the Caricom secretariat in Georgetown. "But we have sent out a communique to all regional organizations, like Caricom and to international organisations and to governments indicating to them that the Advisory Council had been established and is now in control of the government and asking them to provide the opportunity for resumption of normal relations," he added.

Brathwaite said he respected the right of anyone to argue the "legal niceties" of the invasion but he feels the reality of the situation is that Grenadians believe there is a new hope for the future political and economic aspects of their lives. "We do hope," he said, "that now that Grenadians have reflected this new hope, that countries will rethink the position they had taken earlier and will resume normal relations with the interim administration."

Regarding the resumption of foreign aid, Brathwaite said the U.S. and Britain had provided post-invasion aid packages, the European community had resumed its aid programme to the island, and Venezuela will shortly be sending a mission to St George's. "I think from now on that the momentum will increase with respect to donor countries and agencies coming to our assistance," he added.

Wants CBI Participation

FL121455 Bridgetown CANA in English 1721 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 11 (CANA) -- Grenada's interim government wants to benefit from the U.S.-sponsored Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), but not at the expense of becoming a puppet of the United States, head of the 3-week-old caretaker government here, Nicholas Brathwaite said. In an interview with the Barbados-based CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY (CANA) last night, Mr Brathwaite reiterated that the new Grenada Government, which took office on November 15, would never become a puppet of Washington.

U.S. troops led an invasion of Grenada on October 25 to topple a leftist military junta that had seized power in a bloody coup in which the prime minister, three cabinet ministers, and several others were killed.

Mr Brathwaite said it would be ridiculous for anybody to suggest that because the United States "helped us to overcome what was in fact a very critical situation, that they would impose their will on the electorate and on the interim government. "We strongly condemn any suggestion that it would be so. As far as we are concerned, our main mandate is to take the country to the point where the people could, in free and fair elections, elect the government of their choice," he added. "We are not going to be influenced by any other country in this regard," he said.

Mr Brathwaite also stated that on the question of the CBI, the new authorities in Grenada would definitely hold talks with Washington with a view to having the island benefit from the aid and trade package. Under the previous government of executed Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, Grenada was not earmarked to receive aid under the CBI, but could have benefited from the trade aspect of the programme.

Bishop's left-wing government, which had close ties with Communist Cuba, consistently accused Washington of showing hostility towards Grenada and other socialist countries in the Caribbean and Central America.

But, according to Mr Brathwaite, the new Grenada Government was hopeful of entering into talks with Washington for possible assistance under the CBI and a team from Washington would shortly be visiting the island to discuss the issue. "I don't know the exact date, but we certainly intend for Grenada to become one of the beneficiaries under the plan. We do not want to be beggars," he remarked.

He stressed that Grenada would like to be given an opportunity through the trade component of the scheme to improve its industrial and agricultural sectors in particular.

Selecting Diplomatic Corps

FLI21425 Bridgetown CANA in English 1747 GMT 11 Dec 83

[By Rendon Eversley]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 11 (CANA) -- Grenada's 3-week-old caretaker government has announced it is presently selecting new diplomats to head its overseas missions wherever possible, it wants to share diplomatic representation with other member countries of the Organisation of East Caribbean States (OECS).

"...the OECS as a group had agreed to harmonise diplomatic relation, to share diplomatic missions, and we would prefer at this stage to regularise that situation wherever it is possible, like in Canada," Nicholas Brathwaite, the head of the nine-member interim administration, told the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY.

Apart from High Commissioner to London Fennis Augustin, Brathwaite said the new Grenada authorities had not sacked any of the other heads of missions appointed by the former People's Revolutionary Government (PRG). In fact, the authorities had heard little from some of them, he added. "But anybody who has followed the news would know that through their own actions, some of these ambassadors would not be acceptable to the interim administration," Brathwaite said. Some Grenada diplomats were highly critical of the October 25 U.S.-led military intervention that unseated a Marxist military junta that had seized power from the PRG 6 days earlier in a bloody coup.

Brathwaite said the government had recalled three senior career diplomats and they would be placed in areas of the public service where they could use their expertise and experience. The three are High Commissioner to Canada Osbert Benjamin, Ambassador to Belgium Mario Bullen, and the counsellor at the Grenada Mission to the Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington, Denis Noel.

"Those are three definite decisions," the Advisory Council chairman said. "They would be performing duties in their areas of expertise and experience. "Wherever exactly they work will depend on the need at the particular time they are prepared to resume," he added. [as received]

Brathwaite announced the selection of Oswald Gibbs as the new high commissioner to London, replacing Augustin. Gibbs, who held the same post under the Eric Gairy administration, will also be ambassador to Brussels, as the new authorities have decided to temporarily merge the operations of the two missions.

Brathwaite said the interim government was also working on the appointment of a new permanent representative to the United Nations, but a suitable person had not yet been identified. "The change of ambassador after a change of government is a normal procedure," the Advisory Council chairman said.

States Advisory Council's Priorities

FL121810 Bridgetown CANA in English 1953 GMT 11 Dec 83

[By Alister Hughes]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 11 (CANA) -- Nicholas Brathwaite, chairman of an Advisory Council set up to run Grenada after a U.S.-led military intervention toppled a military junta, has identified three priorities for the council, including getting the machinery of the public service back to a level of efficiency and solving the problem of security. "The Council must ensure that Grenadians feel safe and that they live in an atmosphere conducive to production and productivity," he said.

The third priority Brathwaite identified was the high level of unemployment which, he said, had always been a problem in Grenada. "The People's Revolutionary Government cooked the figures when they gave information to the public about unemployment," he said, "but the situation has been aggravated further by the displacement of 30 many persons as a result of recent events."

The chairman said that among these displaced persons are "the 2,000 or so" members of the now disbanded People's Revolutionary Army who are, in most cases, on the streets, and the council will have to ensure that employment opportunities are created to absorb them into the society. "We want reconciliation and unity," Brathwaite said, "and without their participation in the society, we are not going to get that unity and reconciliation, both of which are vital for the economic development of the country."

Asked to comment on Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon's recent statement that "the cost of government will have to be reduced," the chairman said there would be no programme of widespread dismissals. "This would aggravate the problem of unemployment," he said. "We must think of the social situation in the broadest context, and the important thing would be to sustain employment at the present level and increase it as time goes by. "The council's plans are not just to remove people from jobs," he said, "but to try to place them in other jobs where they will be more efficient and productive."

Brathwaite said also that waste will have to be eliminated. "Some departments were over-staffed," he said, "and one has to take a close look at the level of manpower in the civil service and reduce on public sector spending."

It is envisaged, he continued, that with a new lease of life in the private sector, additional jobs will be created and the council will try to ensure that people will not be displaced. If they have to be removed from the public service, he said, an effort will be made to find employment in the private sector.

Reviews Status of Corporations

FL121537 Bridgetown CANA in English 1635 GMT 11 Dec 83

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 11 (CANA) -- Grenada's interim government has announced plans to set up a committee to look at the viability of all public sector corporations run by the previous administration of executed Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. According to the chairman of the new Grenada Government, Nicholas Brathwaite, the committee is expected to make recommendations on those public sector corporations which should be handed over to the private sector.

Mr Brathwaite told the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY (CANA) that the new authorities which took office on November 15 cannot afford to have corporations that are not viable and would return to the private sector those corporations which are not profitable. However, he said, the government has no immediate plans to put into the hands of the business community the state-owned Marketing and National Importing Board which has a monopoly in the sugar, rice, cement, and milk trades.

The marketing board, which was used by Bishop as a major trust for greater state control of basic items, has as one of its primary objectives the reduction of prices to consumers. "If it is found that the marketing board is not satisfying these objectives then we would have to take a second look," Mr Brathwaite said. The new Grenada Government, however, would be awaiting the findings and recommendations of the committee before taking decisions on the public sector corporations in the country, Brathwaite added.

RUSHFORD'S STATEMENT ON RESIGNING OFFICE

FL121745 Bridgetown CANA in English 1940 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, Dec 11 (CANA) -- Former legal adviser to Grenada's new interim administration, Anthony Rushford, has said that the ineffectiveness of the government without its appointed leader, Alister McIntyre, was the main reason for his resignation from the caretaker government.

Rushford, who flew into Antigua last week on an indefinite private vacation, said he was happy with the formal swearing-in of the caretaker government, but had become exceedingly concerned that the constitutional civil government, which he had played an appropriate part "in setting up," was there on paper, but was not working effectively. "I was delighted that a constitutional civil government had been restored, that human rights were fully operating again, that Grenada had gone back to the rule of law, but the administration broke down," he said. "It is just not functioning and the people of Grenada are denied an effective government, and I left because I respect the ...rights and freedom of the people of Grenada," he continued. "They looked around and asked, who is our leader? Is Sir Paul, the governor-general, ruling us? Are the Americans ruling us? Or is the interim government leading us?"

The interim government was set up after a U.S.-led invasion that toppled a junta replacing slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop's Peoples Revolutionary Government (PRG).

Rushford said McIntyre was expected in Grenada around November 19 to take up his heavy and serious responsibilities, but he did not come and eventually on November 24, a news correspondent in Grenada informed me that there was an announcement on the BBC World Service by the Commonwealth secretary general Shridath Ramphal, then in India, that Mr McIntyre was ill and he was not coming. And he has not come. This certainly played a big part in my resignation, because a government cannot function without its leader, Rushford said. He added: It is not a question that I had fallen out with Mr McIntyre or with the governor-general or with anybody else.

He said that on hearing McIntyre would be unable to take up his appointment because of illness, he communicated his resignation directly to the Commonwealth Secretariat in London, which had assigned him constitutional legal adviser to the new interim administration in Grenada.

Rushford also denied charges that rifts between Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon and himself, over sporadic press briefings Rushford was having with international journalists, prompted his resignation. Sir Paul never stopped me from having press briefings, nor had I any quarrel with any human being on that island, nor had I made any remark critical of any Commonwealth government, Rushford said.

The British constitutional expert also denied allegations that the interim government had rejected his proposal to confirm him in the post of attorney general. He said he was just filling the gap until the government could find a suitably qualified Grenadian to do the job, and I did not want the job. The right person to be appointed attorney general is a Grenadian with proper legal qualifications, Rushford said.

Asked about his future in Antigua, Rushford said his stay was indefinite and he was quite happy to be here with his wife as guests of the Government and people of Antigua and Barbuda, with whom he had excellent relations. I will stay around for a while unless the Commonwealth Secretariat requests my services in London, Rushford said.

U.S. TROOPS CONTINUE TO DEPART AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

FL121543 Bridgetown CANA in English 1423 GMT 12 Dec 83

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Excerpts] St George's, Grenada, Dec 12 (CANA) -- About 1,000 United States paratroopers left Grenada at sunrise today, completing the total withdrawal of American combat troops from the island 11 days ahead of the December 23 deadline set by Washington.

It was a scene of intense excitement at the dusty Point Salines airstrip, 5 miles south of here, as the soldiers from the crack 82nd Airborne Division boarded six C-141 Army transport planes for the 4-hour flight back to Pope Air Force Base, North Carolina.

Today's pull-out leaves an estimated 1,200 American soldiers here made up of military police and support troops. By Thursday afternoon, the figure will be down to 300, commander of U.S. forces in Grenada, Major-General Jack Ferris, told CANA.

UK POLICEMAN CITES NEEDS OF LOCAL FORCE

FL121843 Bridgetown CANA in English 2044 GMT 10 Dec 83

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 10 (CANA) -- Grenada's 280-man police force will require a lot of training, as well as vehicles, radio communications, and other specialist gear to properly tackle the job of maintaining law and order, according to a British police adviser on attachment here. "Every single guy in this police force needs training. Every guy, without exception," Brian Graves told the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY (CANA). "As far as I can see, these guys have had no decent training since the mid-70's."

Graves' services have been provided by the British Government, which is helping meet the costs of training for the local lawmen, 50 of whom will go to Barbados on January 9 to enter the Regional Police Training Centre there.

The Grenadians will comprise 30 serving constables and 20 corporals and sergeants. The constables will pursue a five-month recruitment course, while the corporals and sergeants will take a four-week refresher course.

It's the first time Grenadians will go to the Regional Police Training Centre in over 5 years, and neighbouring participating forces have reduced their student quotas to accommodate the Grenadians," Graves said.

Grenada, which is moving towards a revitalisation of constitutional government since a revolution nearly 5 years ago, will allocate the task of defending its re-emerging democratic system to its police force. Under the deposed People's Revolutionary Government (PRG), the now disbanded People's Revolutionary Army (PRA) emerged as the top disciplined force here. The PRG de-emphasized the police.

Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon, in a radio broadcast Thursday night, announced that arrangements were being made for senior Grenadian police officers to go to the United Kingdom for training.

Graves said he expected the size of the force to increase to about 500 over the next 3 years. "But that's a matter for the commissioner and the government," he added.

Top Barbadian policeman Mervyn Holder was recently named commissioner of the local police force as part of the process by the authorities to get it back in peak shape. Graves said he expected Holder to remain in the top post until a Grenadian is equipped to take over.

FORMER PRISONER OF LEFTISTS CRITICIZES COUNCIL

FL130020 Bridgetown CANA in English 2238 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Dec 12 (CANA) -- Former political detainee of Grenada's deposed left-wing government Dr Stanley Cyrus has criticized the exclusion of political figures from the interim government set up in the island four weeks ago. Dr Cyrus told a news conference here today that initially he did not recognise the error of not having political representation on the Advisory Council, but there were some mistakes which have to be corrected very soon.

"...It seems to me at this point that it may have been a mistake to have an interim government involved in political management and nobody there seems to have political experience," he said. He added that what was worse was that there were some other related areas from which experience could have been sought, such as law, and such experience used to brought to bear on politics. "...But there is not one native lawyer on the interim government," he said, "so it looks very bleak there."

The nine-member Advisory Council was named by Governor General Sir Paul Scoon on November 9 to run the country's affairs in the aftermath of the October 19 military coup which was put down six days later by a U.S.-led invasion. Sir Paul had specifically said he would disbar politicians from the council, one of whose main tasks, he said, was to make all necessary preparations for the holding of free and fair elections so that Grenadians could once again choose their own government.

ST CHRISTOPHER-NEVIS

SOUTH KOREA TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

FL121907 Bridgetown CANA in English 1845 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Basseterre, St Kitts, Dec 12 (CANA) -- South Korea will provide St Kitts-Nevis with \$1 million over the next 5 years in technical assistance for agriculture and fishing, Prime Minister Kennedy Simmonds said. Dr Simmonds made the announcement on his return here after a 3-week absence from the country. The South Korean assistance is being made under a memorandum of understanding signed between the two countries during a visit by Dr Simmonds earlier this month. South Korea and St Kitts established diplomatic relations shortly after the Caribbean island became independent last September.

Dr Simmonds also visited New Delhi, where he attended his first Commonwealth Summit, and Washington, where he met President Reagan.

ST LUCIA

TROOPS TO RECEIVE TRAINING FOR GRENADA SERVICE

FL091748 Bridgetown CANA in English 1634 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Dec 9 (CANA) -- St Lucians who are to join the Caribbean multinational force maintaining law and order in Grenada following recent strife there will, from next week, receive training in paramilitary and general police duties, it has been officially announced here. The training sessions are to be conducted by members of the United States military now visiting St Lucia and other Caribbean states which make up the Caribbean military unit in Grenada, according to commissioner of police, Cuthbert Phillips. He told Radio St Lucia that two U.S. officers were now in St Lucia making the final arrangements for the training.

It is necessary to train the officers to perform the paramilitary role, he said, because their presence in Grenada exposed them to sudden attack, or sniper fire, from insurgents who are still believed to be hiding in the undergrowth. He said training will be carried out simultaneously in Jamaica, Barbados, and the other member countries of the Organisation of East Caribbean States (OECS), including Grenada.

Ten St Lucian police officers returned here yesterday from serving in Grenada and were replaced by 15 others who will continue policing duties as members of the Caribbean multi-national force. A total of 40 police officers from St Lucia are serving in Grenada, where Caribbean and U.S. forces intervened militarily October 25 to put down an Army coup that saw the execution of the prime minister and several of his colleagues.

BOUTERSE ACCUSES DUTCH OF PLOTTING COUP

FL091438 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] In Suriname, Army strongman Lieutenant Colonel Deysi Bouterse accused the Dutch military and Amnesty International of cooperating with 14 alleged mercenaries charged with plotting a coup in that South American nation. Mr Bouterse told a television audience Wednesday night that 14 men arrested last month on charges of plotting a coup had connections with the Dutch military, which he accused of aggressive intentions against the former Dutch colony.

Mr Bouterse attacked Holland for suspending its \$1 billion aid program last December when Suriname's military tortured and executed 15 prominent critics. He said Holland's actions were a violation of historical and contractual duties toward our people, resulting in enormous delays in Suriname's social progress.

Seeks Aid in Combating Plotters

FL122048 Bridgetown CANA in English 1953 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, Dec 12 (CANA) -- Suriname's leftist military government has appealed to Holland to take appropriate measures to halt the activities of the Amsterdam-based Liberation Council, which it has accused of being behind a plot to overthrow military leader Lieutenant-Colonel Deysi Bouterse, the official SURINAME NEWS AGENCY (SNA) said today.

SNA said the appeal was made in a note to the Netherlands Government, which pointed out that since 1980 anti-revolutionary forces "from within and without the country" have persistently made unsuccessful attempts "not only at disturbing the indispensable peace, but also at destabilising the revolutionary process as a whole and overthrowing the legitimate government of the country." The statement, SNA said, was also sent to the United Nations Security Council, the Permanent Council of the Organisation of American States, and the Nonaligned Movement.

Last November 29 the military government, which seized power in this former Dutch colony three years ago, said it had foiled a plot hatched by the Liberation Council, headed by former President Henk Chin-a-Sen, to use mercenaries trained in Holland and France to topple Bouterse. The exiled opposition group has since denied any involvement in the alleged plot, saying that it would never use mercenaries in its resistance to the government. The Netherlands and France have also denied any involvement.

Some 25 persons have so far been arrested by the military government, which the statement said has repeatedly expressed its willingness to entertain good relations with all states irrespective of their political and economic system. In this way, the statement said, Suriname would be contributing to the development and maintenance of regional stability and world peace on the basis of the principles of nonintervention, and the sovereign right of self-determination of the peoples of the region.

Meantime, in a speech last Saturday to cadres of mass organisations, Army strongman Bouterse stressed this sovereign right of the Surinamese people to "make a definite break with its coloniser and its imperialist accomplices." He said that progress had been made this year in the industrial development of the country as well as in agriculture, energy, and lumber sectors, in spite of the suspension of Dutch development aid.

Bouterse said there was a Dutch warship in the waters of Curacao, one of the six Caribbean islands forming the Dutch Antilles, and he linked its presence to the alleged conspiracy to remove his regime.

He also indicated that various work committees have been formed to study subjects like socioeconomic development and international relations for the further development of the so-called February 25 movement launched last month. Bouterse said the work is expected to be finished around mid-January when the draft report would be presented to the people for approval.

BOLIVIACOB CONFIRMS 48-HOUR GENERAL STRIKE 13-14 DEC

PY121349 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] The Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] has confirmed the 48-hour strike called for Tuesday and Wednesday this week in view of the government's failure to officially respond to its request that a minimum salary with an escalator clause be established. The following is the text of the latest press communique released by the COB:

Pursuant to decisions made in the national assemblies of 8-10 November and 6 December and in the communique released on 7 December, the COB Executive Committee hereby resolves:

First, the government has not responded favorably to our proposal for the establishment of a minimum salary with an escalator clause, which had been entrusted to this committee by the above assemblies, in keeping with an executive branch decree providing that an escalator clause should be automatically applied when the price index increases by 40 percent.

Second, the strike will take place on Tuesday, 13 December, and on Wednesday, 14 December. Strike committees shall take provisions to ensure emergency services. This will be a general strike which will not be observed solely by union-owned radio stations. The state-owned television station will carry sports and programs for children from 1700 to 2100.

Third, strike committees will have to report to their respective organizations on the developments of the strike and will follow further instructions.

COLOMBIAACCUSED DRUG TRAFFICKER SOUGHT BY U.S. FREED

PA122025 Paris AFP in Spanish 1927 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Bogota, 12 Dec (AFP) -- Lukas Gomez van Grieken, a drug trafficker wanted by the United States, today regained his freedom. The United States had requested his extradition, but this was denied by the government of President Belisario Betancur. Justice Marcos Arevalo of the 67th Criminal Court ordered Gomez' release. Gomez was being held in Bogota's Modelo Prison. The release order came after the justice verified that errors had been committed in the legal procedures.

The United States has accused the drug trafficker of introducing narcotics into that country. The Colombian Supreme Court had granted an extradition, but President Betancur denied it. President Betancur stated that Gomez initiated the drug trafficking crime in Colombia, and therefore had to be tried under Colombian justice.

ECUADORPRESIDENT RETURNS FROM ALFONSIN INAUGURATION

PA121455 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Excerpt] President Osvaldo Hurtado arrived in Quito last night at 2050, returning from Argentina after the inauguration of the new president, Raul Alfonsin, in Buenos Aires.

President Hurtado traveled with (Walter Esparza), president of the National Congress, Dr Carlos Pozo Montesdeoca, president of the Supreme Court, Luis Valencia Rodriguez, foreign relations minister, and other ranking state officials. Also included in the presidential entourage were some members of the media.

President Hurtado was met by the ministers of government, public works, industry, and labor, as well as chiefs of the Armed Forces and representatives of the diplomatic corps.

GUYANA

BURNHAM RETURNS FROM TRIP TO INDIA, N. KOREA

FL091730 Bridgetown CANA in English 1610 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Dec 9, CANA -- Guyana President Forbes Burnham has returned home after the week-long Commonwealth summit in New Delhi, India, and a visit to North Korea.

Burnham had been away since November 20, when he left for the summit at the head of a delegation said to have numbered 102 persons, including businessmen who were due to hold talks with counterparts in New Delhi. After the summit, President Burnham flew to Pyongyang for talks with President Kim Il-Song, said by a spokesman for the Korean Embassy here to be aimed "at further strengthening the friendly relations already existing between the two countries."

FOUR FOREIGN TECHNICAL MISSIONS EXPECTED

FL101532 Bridgetown CANA in English 1423 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Dec 10, CANA -- Four separate technical missions are due in Guyana next week for talks with the government on co-operation in areas ranging from broadcasting to joint business ventures. Government officials say one team arrives from Bulgaria to examine ways of helping the state-owned Guyana Broadcasting Corporation (GBC) improve its (radio) transmitting facilities. A Romanian delegation is due on Thursday in connection with the same project. A third mission is expected from Yugoslavia and will advance earlier talks on joint ventures.

An earlier Yugoslav mission last April signed an agreement paving the way for business cooperation, including development of Guyana's gold operations in the mineral rich Mazaruni area. No date was given for the arrival of this delegation.

The other team is due from Brazil towards the end of the week, and will seek to strengthen bilateral relations, a ministerial spokesman said.